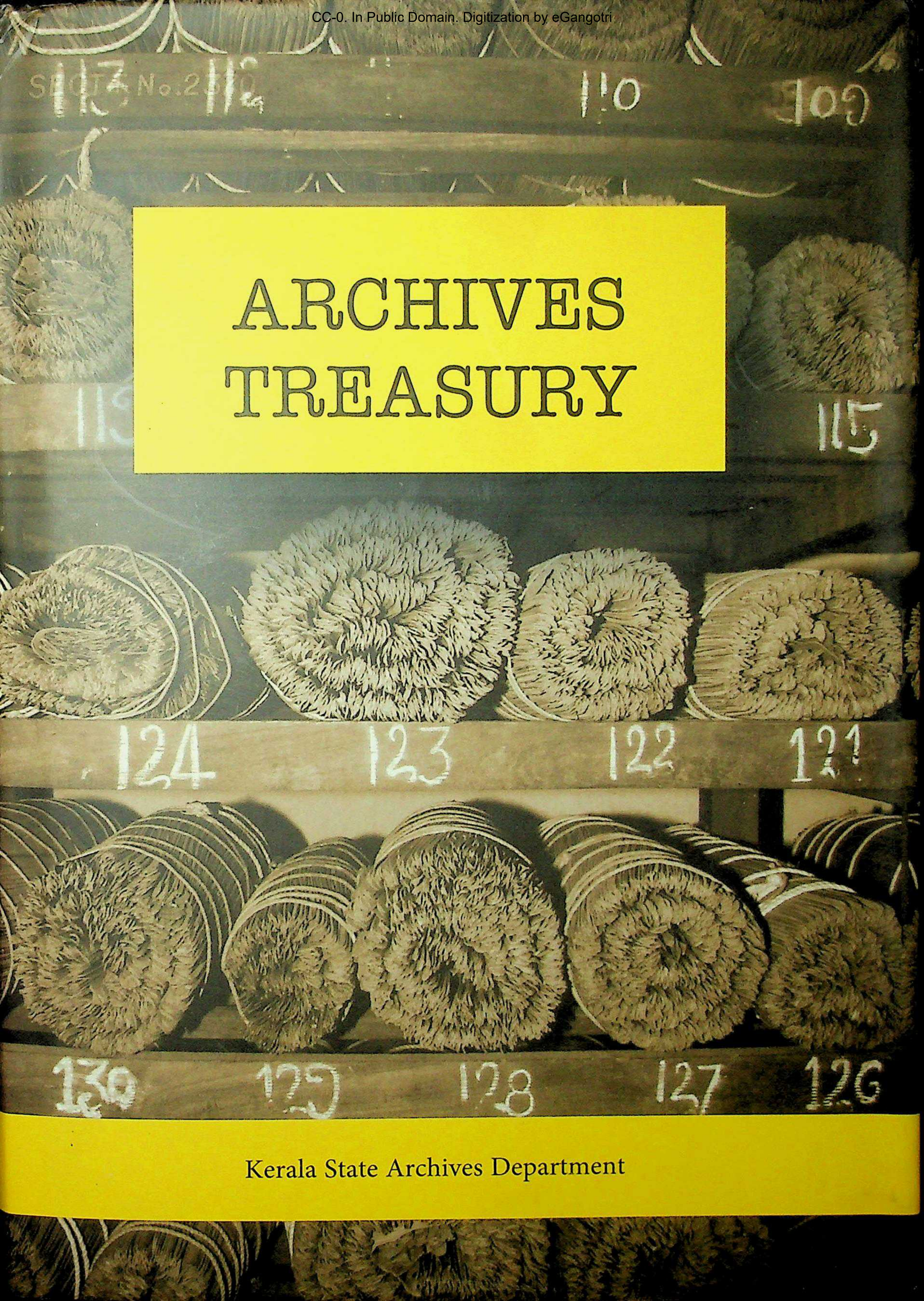


ARCHIVES TREASURY

Kerala State Archives Department

Archives Treasury

Archives Treasury
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ARCHIVES TREASURY

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Editor

J. REJIKUMAR

Director

Kerala State Archives

Government of Kerala

2010

Director's Note

Archives is a treasure house of valuable and essential documents. Documents are necessary for the systematic analysis and study of history and culture of the people of the region. Now the historians and scholars strongly hold that without authentic documents there is no history at all. The study of history should be based on original documents. The researchers should evolve their hypotheses and theories based on the documents. Archives has now assumed greater significance across the globe. The Government is very keen in the proper preservation and maintenance of such records.

Among the states of modern India, the state of Kerala is noted for its rich and remarkable collection of precious documents. Palm leaf records are rather without any parallels anywhere else in the whole world. Besides the palm leaf records the Department of Archives, Government of Kerala remains the centre and citadel of a variety of original documents. The Regional Archives in Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam and Kozhikode are rather impregnant with several such primary sources which would be able to reorient and reconstruct the history of modern Kerala.

Archives Treasury represents a rare collection of select documents on the history of Kerala preserved in the archival repositories in Kerala and outside. **Archives Treasury** published in 1993 has already exhausted its copies by virtue of the high demand and continues to command great demand from the researchers and scholars. Considering its worth and originality the Department of Archives deems it a privilege to bring out the second edition of the **Archives Treasury**.

Archives Treasury is originally a collection of thirty two volumes of **Kerala**

State Archives Newsletter published by the Department of Archives from 1974 to 1989. It comprises of one hundred and fifteen original documents encompassing a period of one and a half centuries from 1796 to 1945 which have great relevance and significance on the history and culture of Kerala. Most of the documents shed fresh light on the unexplored areas of Kerala history. Some of the documents are calculated to correct certain historical wrongs and also to solve the historical riddles. No doubt each document is significant in its own way.

The State Archives Department is able to bring out a large number of such publications only because of the leadership and initiative of Sri. M.A. Baby, Honourable Minister for Education and Cultural Affairs, Government of Kerala. I record my deep gratitude and indebtedness to Sri. M.A. Baby. I am grateful to Dr.V. Venu IAS, Secretary, Cultural Affairs Department, Government of Kerala for his sincere support towards the publication of the rare documents and books. The Editorial Committee under the chairmanship Dr.K.N.Panikkar with Dr.K.K.N.Kurup, Dr.S.Sivadasan, Dr.K.Maheswaran Nair and Sri.Malayinkeezhu Gopalakrishnan as members always remained a perpetual source of support towards the archival publications. I record my deep gratitude to their valuable comments and criticisms. I am very much beholden to Dr.B.Sobhanan for his suggestions. I am always thankful to the Assistant Director, Archivists, Superintendents, Junior Editor, Assistant Archivists, Editorial Assistants and all other staff members of the Department who became instrumental in bringing out the publications. The Godfrey's Graphics, Sasthamangalam, Thiruvananthapuram and Soft and Soft, Sasthamangalam, Thiruvananthapuram deserve our special thanks for cover design and type setting. I am very much grateful to the Kerala Books and Publication Society, Ernakulam for the efficient printing works.

J. Rejikumar
Director
Kerala State Archives

FOREWORD

It is a matter of gratification for me in writing the foreword to this publication. One of the most important duties of archival repositories is the publication of selected items of records and making them available to the public interested in the subject. It would become beneficial to the readers as well as the Department because the spirit of archival consciousness could be aroused by this.

However, from 1974, we have been publishing the 'Kerala State Archives News letter' as a quarterly. But owing to its limited circulation the publication do not meet the ever increasing demand of the Scholars interested in Kerala History and Culture. Now we have completed a century of record preservation and on this occasion as a fitting prelude to it we have decided to publish those materials already brought out in the News letters into volumes.

The present volume contains a good collection of documents that have a bearing on Kerala history and culture. The records actually provide evidence and shed light on many a crucial question-ancient and modern-of interest to the readers for their further innovations. Thus the publication will surely help the researchers of Kerala History to have an informative piece of literature within their reach. This is a modest beginning and we hope we will be able to build up a good publication programme for the Department.

In conclusion I express my appreciation of the work undertaken by the Department. It gives me great pleasure in associating myself with the publication of this volume. I wish that this may be followed by many other such useful publications.

T. M. JACOB,
Minister for Irrigation and Cultural Affairs.

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Archives, Kerala has pleasure to place before public this volume which contains reprint of the documents previously published as stencil copies from 1974 to 1989 under the caption 'News letters'.

The majority of the records published belong to Central Archives, Trivandrum of the Government of Travancore. Apart from that some records belonging to Cochin and Malabar had also been included.

The series of News letters was started in 1974 under orders of the Government. Originally the numbers were issued as quarterly but owing to unavoidable reasons the pace of time could not be kept up. The total number of News letters issued till 1989 comes to 32.

As there is demand for copies of these records from students of History and Culture we thought of bringing out in book form all the important records.

This volume contains 115 numbers of documents from 1796 to 1945. The records are faithfully reproduced. The editorial note given at the beginning is added by the editor. It is printed in smaller type. Necessary footnotes are also given in smaller type.

We hope this publication will be warmly welcomed by the public.

P. Leela Bai,
Director.

Thiruvananthapuram
18-8-1993.

DR. R. Madhudevan Nair,
Editorial Archivist.

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1. HOW COLUMBO WAS WON BY THE BRITISH

It used to be claimed that the Sun never set over the British Empire. The historian who pries into the story of how that Empire was built, is fascinated by documents such as the one reproduced hereunder. This despatch, which speaks of a crucial victory of the English over the Dutch in the Island of Ceylon (now Srilanka) is kept in the Ernakulum Archives.

To

His Highness the Rajah of Cochin, etc., etc.,

Sir,

As Your Highness did me the honour of expressing with that I would communicate our proceedings to you from time to time, it is infinite pleasure I embrace this opportunity of informing Your Highness that on this day Columbo together with all the other Dutch Forts Settlements and possessions on the island of Ceylon surrendered by Capitulation to His Britannic Majesty. At 10 O' Clock this forenoon the British Troops marched in and took possession of the Fort of Columbo under a Royal Salute from the Batteries and ships of war. On the 12th instant a shoor match took place between us and the enemy whose numbers amounted to 200 Europeans and 600 chosen Malays in which they were instantly and completely defeated and pursued under the guns of the Fort, with the loss of 200 killed, wounded and missing whilst we had only 3 men killed and two officers and nine men wounded.

Permit me to offer my best congratulations to Your Highness upon this very important event and to assure Your Highness, that with my best wishes see Your Health and Happiness.

I have the honor to be,

Your Highness' most faithful and most obedient servant

GEO PATRICK MAJOR,

February, 16th, 1796.

Officer Commanding the Bombay Detachment
Columbo.

2. VELUTHAMPY'S APPOINTMENT AS DALAWA

Here is an English translation of a Persian letter dated 4th May 1801 from the Raja of Travancore (Balarama Varma-1798-1810 A.D.) addressed to the Governor General informing the appointment of Velu Thampy as Diwan consequent on the dismissal of the former Diwan. The original letter is preserved in the National Archives of India as per SI. No. 258 in the Descriptive List of Persian correspondence (1801) a Photocopy of which has been procured by the State Archives together with this English rendering by courtesy of the National Archives of India.

From the Rajah of Travancore (addressed to the Governor General)
Received 4th day 1801

Upon the death of EP Sumra Pulla, I appointed obey Sirperadee Kareegar,[1] from a consideration of the necessity of nominating some person to conduct the affairs of this quarter, to succeed him, giving strict injections to make these two duties-his observance of his religion, and a faithful adherence to the perpetual Treaty with the Company which involved the greatest advantages and benefits to me, the Rule and Guide of his conduct, and to preserve in his endeavors to fulfill them. In consequence, however, of his negligence, remissness, and total inexperience, he was found incapable of conducting any business, under these circumstances I was constantly fearful of detriment to my affairs and that his unskillful measures might be productive of my disadvantage. Impressed with these idea I removed him from his situation and have appointed Veloo Tombee Kareegar his successor, a man of talent, ability and experience and much in my confidence and of the family of my former Dewan, and who before the appointment of his uncle Kishoo Doss[2] to the Dewan, executed the duties of that situation with deligence and conduct, and acquitted himself with great credit and honor on several occasions. Please God! I am fully convinced that from his knowledge and eminent talents, the various affairs of my Government will be conducted with superior advantage and ability.

I trust that your Lordship considering me anxious to receive accounts of your health, will favor me with your kind letters.

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1. This is an incorrect rendering probably due to illegibility in the original. The correct rendering ought to be as follows;-
 Upon the death of Kesava Pillai I appointed Udiyeri Sankaran Namburi, etc "obey" may be "Udiyeri". "Obey Sirparadee Karreegar" Udiyeri Sarvadhi-Karyakkar. Udiyeri Jayantan Sankaran Namburi was appointed only as Valiya Sarvadhikaryakkar and not as Dalawa or Dewan on the death of Kesawa Das in 974 M.E.
2. Raja Kesava Das.

3. TRAVANCORE RAJA'S PROTEST AGAINST THE CONDUCT OF RESIDENT MAJOR MACAULAY

The following is an English translation of a Persian letter dated 6th February 1801 addressed to Marquis of Wellessley the Governor General by Balarama Varma Maharaja of Travancore (1798-1810 A.D.) the photocopy of the original together with English rendering was acquired from the National Archives of India, New Delhi.

It may be noted that Travancore was at that time an independent State and the English had no right to interfere in the internal affairs of the State as per article 9 of the treaty of 1795 A.D.

It is evident from the contents that this strong letter was sent at the instance of his Dalawa (Diwan Velu Thampi.

This letter sent by the Maharaja when he was not even twenty years old deserves notice, as it serves to remove the general notion that he was a very weak ruler.

From the Rajah of Travancore (addressed to the Governor General-
Marquif of Wellessley),
Received 6th February, 1801.

By the Grace and favor of God, from the time that a friendly inter course and good understanding has subsisted between the English Company my ancestors and myself, a communication of all our affairs has been constantly kept up, and the assistance and support which your Lordship and former Governors have afforded upon occasions of emergency have laid me under obligations to your kindness and favour, and the relations of amity have been increased and strengthened. These circumstances are well known to all; some late events however have for the first time occasioned me extreme anxiety and uneasiness-although the arrival of Major Macaulay here in a happy moment, with a letter from your Lordship to be the channel of communication between us in all affairs, in the room of Major Brannerman, has added strength to the bonds of amity and union; yet, notwithstanding that I have manifested towards him every respect and attention, that I have every derived the highest satisfaction from the other Gentlemen who have had concerns here, and that was in hope that he would have shown an increased Degree of friendship towards me, his character and disposition have proved so directly opposite

to those of Major Brannerman (who was ever mindful of the preservation of the rights of me and of my family, and possessed a thorough knowledge of the manners and customs of this country an observance of which invariably commanded his regard) that the details of particulars would give me the greatest pain and uneasiness. How is it possible that I should draw the comparison between him and the goodness and mild department of Major Brannerman. The idea of poeposterious-one of the greatest embarassments that I have experienced from the various instances of his conduct has been his having promulgated various reports which had originated with the Public together with his own suspicious and vague idea upon them. As I reflect on this circumstance, I know not, in what terms, I can adequately convey my complaints of such conduct.

My Lord, the improvement of the constitution of a Government, and the tranquility and settlement of a country, must always depend upon the wisdom and justice of its Ruler, and upon the exertion if Ministers of tried integrity, experience and Honour accordingly the dismissal of my late Diwan, who was versed in business and active in the arrangement of all affairs, has been a source to me of the greatest distress. As I now, however, have taken the conduct of all affairs upon myself, every arrangement here has been carried into effect-agreeably to the salutary counsel and advice of my deceased uncle at the time of his death "strictly to adhere to the observance of the duties requisite towards and preservation of friendship and to the performance of my engagements, which by the ninth article, are firm as the Wall of Alexander". I have never deviated, nor will I ever hereafter deviate a hair's breadth from friendship. I therefore do not allow anything to disturb me which Major Macaulay, (who wishes to interrupt the relations of amity and friendship) may say to me. In consideration of his conduct, I am compelled by necessity to communicate to your Lordship the circumstances which have happened in this short time. From the day of his arrival here, he has never said anything excepting with asperity and ill humor, and, without touching on matters of business, though the object of his coming here was expressly to advice for the mutual interests of the two States. He has so pointedly avoided my Dewan and others of my Officers, that it is with difficulty they obtain an interview with him, my Diwan has been several times even to his house to see him, but has returned without being admitted, Major Macaulay has also carefully returned

for answer, to my friends compliments expressive of my desire to see him, that he could not see me. In the course of a conversation with my Diwan* he told him, that he ought to annul the Treaty of perpetual alliance which was formerly settled by Mr. Jonathan Duncan, Governor of Bombay by order of the court of Directors and with the approbation of Lord Teignmouth then Governor General of Bengal, with a view to the mutual interests of both States, and draw up new Engagements after his arrival here, also, he sent word by Ramsungum his Interpreter, to the people stationed of the Armenian gateway not to allow egress or ingress to any persons or any letters to be received from the Nabob Amdutool Omrab or others without his knowledge, that in the event if any disobedience of this order he would station a company of sepoys as a guard over the gateway-again on the 12th instant, a Dobash, who came to see me preferred a strange improbable story against my principal moonshee, which was scarcely to be credited. I consequently however kept him under constraint for some days until the circumstance could be investigated, and directed my Dewan to make a particular inquiry into the merits of the case. My Dewan accordingly made a thorough investigation of the circumstances when the whole proved to be mere calumny; I therefore sent a letter mentioning this circumstance to Major Macaulay by Hircarrahas, but upon reading the address of the letter he returned it to them, and sent by them a message that a correspondence, within a short a distance, was unnecessary and uncustomary. One day in the commencement of this mass of difficulties he said to my Diwan, that if he would not conform to his directions he would get him dismissed his situation, and appoint another to succeed him; and that he would call in the aid of troops and make some settlement here. Further, my Dewan being impressed with the importance of fixing some standard price for Black pepper which is an object of the first consequence, wrote a letter upon the subject in answer to the Major, in the Arwee language. The Major however returned the letter upon looking at the superscription. Soon after his arrival here he formed a dislike to the place of his residence, and expressed a wish to occupy the house and gardens of my deceased uncle accordingly, as the satisfaction of my friends is always a source of pleasure to myself, I gave it to him for his residence-after remaining there for some days, he went without my

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* Velu Tampi Dalawa

knowledge to the factory at Poontorch, which is situated upon the Bank of the river for manufacture of merchandize, where he contrary to all justice, bat one of the Guards who was stationed there in such a manner, for no fault whatever, that he had not the power to stand. All the world are impressed with an idea of the impropriety of his conduct.

My Lord that Major Macaulay should thus causelessly commit such acts of violence in the world friendship which subsists without any difference of interest between the Company and me is not only a matter of surprise but calls for justice. I therefore write all these circumstances, which he has brought upon himself, for your Lordship's information. I have continued my principal moonshee in his situation as formerly with the knowledge and concurrence of Major Macaulay. I sincerely hope from your Lordships kindness and favour that your will give your attention to the conduct of Major Macaulay and give directions that all my public communications and intercourse may be carried on in future with the Governor of Bombay conformably to former established custom, or with the resident at Anjengo, whose station is within a short distance-a compliance with this wish will lay me under obligation to your Lordship's kindness.

I trust that, considering me as always desirous of the pleasing accounts of your Lordships health, your Lordship will make me happy by your letters.

4. LETTERS REGARDING THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE MALABAR COAST

The record mentioned here does not form part of our archival collection. It was a gift from late Dr. A. T. Markose. The introductory portion is reproduced here.

There is difference of opinion among scholars with regard to theearly establishment of Christainity in Kerala. But some writers believe that the first Church was established by St. Thomas in 52 A.D. and the apostle was murdered in cold blood at a place which came to be known as St. Thomas Mount near Madras. The details mentioned here throw some interesting light on the early history of Christanity on the Malabar Coast.

Extract: Fort St. George Public Consultations,
7th November 1806.

Read the following letter from the Senior Chaplin of Fort St. George.

To

G. G. Keble Esq.,
Secretary to Government,
Public Department.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the enclosed letter containing my report on History of Christianity on the Malabar Coast to be delivered to the Lordship in Council agreeably to the desire expressed in your letter of the 28th of June last. There are some points still unascertained which I hope by the means of the correspondence of some of my friends residing in Malabar to furnish hereafter.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
J. H. KEER.

Fort St. George,
November 4th 1806.

To

The Right Hon'ble
Lord W. C. Bentinck,
Governor in Council.

My Lord,

When at Mysore, I was honored by the receipt of Mr. Secretary Kebble's letter dated the 28th of June last, and finding my general health much proving I resolved to proceed to the Malabar Coast in search of the information, required by your Lordship in Council regarding the Christians inhabiting that part of the Peninsula: an investigation which I have found as interesting, as it is important, whether it regards humanity at large, or as it is connected in a political view with the British interests in this country.

To examine the extensive field pointed out for my enquiries minutely would require much more of my time than could be well spared from my other public avocation, and as I learned that the Reverend Dr. Buchanan was nominated by the Government of Bengal to hover over the same ground for purposes somewhat similar, I did not think it incumbent on me to take up more than a general view of the subject and I directed my attention accordingly not so much to details, as to matters of comprehensive import.

The first object to which the orders of Government refer is to an account of the introduction of Christianity into this country.

There can be no doubt, whatever that the St. Thomas Christians settled on the Malabar Coast at a very early period of the Christian Church, whence they at one time, spread in various directions as far as even as Malabar and St. Thomas' Mount but to derive authentic information as to the time of their arrival, is at present no easy task.

From the confusion arising from the imperfection of Hindoo Chronology, from the desire which these Christians have to derive their origin from the earliest possible time which may perhaps have introduced false traditions amongst them and as all their authentic records are reported to have destroyed during the persecution of the Church of Rome for all these circumstances, whether we refer to the Hindoo accounts to the St. Thomas Christians themselves, or to their persecutors, the Roman Catholics, we are not likely to

arrive at any certain conclusion as to the exact time of their establishment in Malabar. Some circumstances however may be collected from undoubted AUTHORITY by which it may be inferred that they have been for nearly fifteen centuries established in India, for we find in Ecclesiastical History that at the first council of Nice in the year 325 a Bishop from India was amongs the member composing that memorable synod and in the creeds and doctrines the Christians of Malabar internal evidence exist of their being a Primitive church. For the supremacy of the Pope is denied and the doctrine of transubstantiation never has been held by them, and they regarded and still regard the worship of images as idolotrous, and the doctrine of purgatory to the fabulous-Moreover they never admitted as Sacraments Extreme Function, Marriage or Confirmation-all which facts may be substantiated on reference to the acts of the Synod established by Don Alexis De Meneses Arch Bishop of Goa at Diamper in the year 1599.

The history of this council will be found most ably detailed in a work printed in French and entitled the History of Christianity in India, published at Hague in the year 1724 by Le Croze, the celebrated Librarion to the King of Prussia.

The object of this work was to deduce from authentic materials the rise, progress and establishment of Christianity in the East, and to hold up to disgrace and to merit indignation the bigotted and the unworthy conduct of the Roman Catholic Church in the persecution set on foot by her emissaries under her avowed sanction against the primitive Christians who were found settled on the coast of Malabar and Le Croze has discharged his duty to the public in a most faithful, interesting and able manner.

When the Portuguese first arrived in the country, in the beginning of the 16th Century, they found a Christian church using the Syro-Chaldiac language established in the neighborhood of Crangannoor and though it was published to the world many centuries before that period that such a church existed yet. We find their ignorance expressed in the wonder which it excited. These Christians met the Portuguese as natural friends and allies and rejoiced at their coming-But the Portuguese were much disappointed at finding the St. Thome Christians firmly fixed, in the tenets of a primitive church and soon adopted plans for drawing away from their pure faith this innocent, ingenious and respectable people however after using for nearly a century all the

customary arts and abominable persecution of the church of Rome to no purpose. Don Alexis De Meneses the Archbishop of Goa appeared amongst them, and by this commanding influence his seal and his learning and on the authority of what he called the council of Diamper forced the Syrian Metropolitan, his priests and people into the Roman pale. The Archbishop however had not long quitted the scene of this triumph of bigotry are the people feigned for their old Religion and cherished it in private, but on the 22nd of May 1853 they held a congress at Alingatte, and great number headed by their Metropolitan revolted publicly, from the Romish communion-nor has all the influence of the Roman Pentiff and the King of Portugal been able to draw them away from their old faith.

Leaving the History of this interesting people, which is affectingly delincated in Le Croze's Book, I shall in this report, confine myself more particularly to the existing state of Christanity in Malabar, and in order that Lordship may have the subject clearly, before you I shall consider each sect of Christains by itself under the head of 1st St. Thome of Jacobite Christains. Secondly The Syrian Catholics who have been forced from the Jacobite church into the Romish pale, and 3rdly the Latin church.

5. COL. MUNRO AND TRAVANCORE

Reproduced below is a letter from Col. Munro, British Resident in Travancore, addressed to Fort St. George Madras in 1814, embodying his recommendation to nominate the Principal Thampuratti of Attingal H. H. Gouri Parvathi Bayi as Regent.

This letter reveals the administrative sagacity of Col. Munro, and the remarkable qualities and capacity of the Tampuratti. (Regent)

Fort St. George 25th October 1814

Read the following letters from the Resident in Travancore:-

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

I regret that indisposition has for some time prevented me from transmitting to you a report on the form of the Government proper in my Judgement to be established in Travancore. The decision of this question appears to be limited necessarily to one of the two following arrangements viz. first that the British Government considering the Infant Rajah as a minor should assume the Chief control of the affairs of the country according to the system of measures pursued for some years in Mysore, or secondly that Her Highness the Principal Tumbratty of Attingal should be declared Regent of the country and placed at the head of its Government until the Rajah shall attain a suitable age.

On grounds of justice the British Government appears to be authorized by the nature of the subsisting relations between the States to adopt whichever of those arrangements shall be best recommended by other considerations and the people of Travancore entertain at the present moment so firm a confidence in the moderation, honor and equity of the English nation that they will submit with readiness to such regulations as shall be established for the Government of their country.

It may be proper to examine the probable effects of the two arrangements which I have mentioned in their relation to the prosperity of the country, the

feelings and prejudices of the people, the safety of the young Raja, and the maintenance of the ancient forms and institutions of the State.

A severe and oppressive system of Government in Travancore had nearly destroyed the sources of its prosperity, and had impressed upon its inhabitants a character of immorality; idleness, deceit and turbulence which rendered them equally dangerous to their own Rajahs and to the British power. Their history for many years exhibits a series of insurrections and crimes. The reformation of those evils has been a primary object of my policy, and I have many reasons to be satisfied with the result of the measures adopted for its attainment. But although many oppressive regulations have been repealed and several beneficial instructions have been introduced for the administration of justice and the management of the Revenues, much remains still to be for the relief of the people and it may be supposed that such further measures as are requisite for that purpose could be carried into execution with more promptitude and efficacy under the direct control of the British Government than under the administration of a Regent. This argument is far however from being conclusive all the arrangements hitherto pursued for the melioration of the conditions of the people have been introduced gradually and cautiously: they were invariably explained most fully to the late Ranee and received her consent and approbation and it is probable that whatever further measures of reform may be necessary will encounter no obstacles on the part of the Regent's Government. The execution of those measures would indeed be facilitated in some respect by the existence of a local Government they would be regarded by the people with less jealously and suspicion in being issued such a Government than if they proceeded direct from a British authority. It may be expected that the young Tumbratty if appointed Regent may be induced by entrusted advisers to lavish the resources of the country, a defect from which her late sister was not exempted but this disposition may be restrained by proper advice on the part of the Resident and as it cannot interrupt the payment of the subsidy of the regular disbursements of the Government, it will never probably be productive of any practical inconvenience. Although the people of Travancore will entrust readily to any form of administration prescribed by the wisdom of the British Government, yet it is reasonable to suppose that they may be more partial to one system of Government than to another, as far as I am qualified to judge of their sentiments, I think that the appointment of a Regent by its preserving the appearance of a National and local Government would be more satisfactory to them than the measure of vesting the chief

control of affairs in a British authority. The appointment of a Regent would maintain the ancient form of the Government and prevent the appearance of innovation or incursion. During the reign of the late Ranee I showed the most marked attention to her wishes and employed every means in my power to support her dignity and authority: the people were accustomed to regard her with reverence and respect which they had paid to their Rajahs: they saw her occupy the place of the Rajah and scarcely found any difference in the constitution of the Government. But at present as the infant Rajah is avowedly incapable of exercising any of the functions of his office the want of an ostensibly efficient head of the Government although it certainly would not occasion any movement among the people might serve as a presence for exciting discontent in their minds. There is however this objection to the appointment of the Regent, that it might furnish her with temptations to abridge the lives of the young Rajahs* in order to prolong the continuance of her power or transmit it to her children, and afford her facilities for the execution of that crime if she should ever mediate it. But the temptations to commit that crime and the facilities for executing it will be nearly the same whether the remains in her present situation. In the latter case the death of her sister's children would occasion her elevation to the Musnud: and as Principal Tumbratty she has such constant intercourse with the family and so much influence in the place as to progress ample opportunities for accomplishing their destruction if she should ever seriously intend it. But there is nothing in the conduct, character or disposition of the Tumbratty that can allow us to suppose her capable of undertaking so terrible a crime. The warmest affection subsisted between the late Ranee and her and she seems to regard her sister's children as her own. The Tumbratty has no children: it is probable that a few years may elapse before she bears any, and in the mean time the young Rajahs will attain an age of greater strength and maturity.

In appointing a Regent there will also be this advantage that the ancient system of the Government the correspondence with the Dewan and the regular forms of office will be maintained until the Rajah takes the administration into his own hands-and although a great degree of wisdom cannot be expected in the resolutions of a young woman, yet as she will be surrounded by the old friends and advisers of the Government-she will most probably act with propriety and the circumstance of the Dewan being required to report his

* The two princes Swati Tirunal and Uthram Tirunal who latter on became rulers.

proceedings and receive her orders upon all his measures will operate as a salutary check upon his conduct and serve as the means of recording all the transactions of the administration.

The consideration which I have stated appear to concur in recommending the measure of appointing Her Highness the Tumbratty to the charge of the Government-measure is conformable to the institutions of the Hindoos which generally vest the change of affairs during the Infancy of a Rajah in the senior member of his family-Ossorio in his history of the Portuguese states that when that nation first arrived at Quilon "the Queen Dowagers was in the place of her son who was not of age then managed the Kingdom of Quilon with great reputation". The principal Tumbratty's talents are considered superior to those of her late sisters her disposition seems to be candid and sincere and there is every reason to suppose that she will act with prudence and rectitude if placed in charge of the Government. In the event of her being declared regent I beg leave to recommend that she may be addressed by the titles stated in the accompanying Paper (Nos.). They are the same which were addressed to her late sister with the exception of one word which is considered more suitable to the Tumbratty name which is Parwedi.

After the date of my last letter to you I had several conferences with Her Highness the Tumbratty. In one of those having sent her attendants to some distance with the exception of a Brahmin who is much in her confidence, I requested Her Highness to state to me her real sentiments with those of her late sister regarding the Dewan, and the person most eligible to fill his place. I mentioned to the Tumbratty that I was anxious to receive on this subject her own opinion unbiased by the prejudices or enmities of any of her attendants. I told her that no person was more jealous of her welfare and Honor than the Diwan that he was an upright well-disposed man but had enemies eager to misrepresent his actions-she replied that she entertained no personal hostility towards the Dewan but she as well as her late sister thought him unqualified for his office, and his conduct had in some instances since his appointment been improper and disrespectful. I said that the Dewan's intentions could not always be understood from his ordinary behavior which was often blunt and informal and that I should beg permission on the next day to receive a more deliberate expression of her judgement regarding the Dewan. I then adverted to the high importance attached to the safety of the Infant Rajah. I mentioned that the solicitude which must be felt on this point by all the friends of the

State, would be much relieved and the safety of the young Rajah materially ensured by an officer being placed on the spot who having no other motives of conduct expecting zeal for the public interests would watch over the Rajah's welfare, take the most effectual precautions to guard him from all dangers and report the state of his health. I said that Captain Macleod was a person in whose discretion, judgement and temper the utmost valiance might be placed, and I begged to know whether Her Highness approved of his remaining at Trivandrum in the exercise of the duties that had been entrusted to Maha Sing. His functions would not I assured her produce the smallest interference with the established customs of the place, but would be limited to the means indispensible to the safety of the Rajah. Her Highness said she was extremely well pleased with the arrangement which I had suggested: it would relieve her own mind from much anxiety and she hoped it might be carried into effect.

On the following day I waited on the Tumbratty and received the accompanying Memorandum regarding the Dewan. I said that I should submit it to the Government.

The sentiments of the principal persons in the Palace were entirely favorable to the arrangement which I have stated regarding Captain Macleod. Indeed most of them expressed their satisfaction at a measure which promised to afford the greatest practicable degree of safety to the Rajah and exonerate them from the suspicions that in case of accident might attach to their conduct. Those dispositions induced me to place Captain Macleod until the pleasure of the Government should be known in the charge that had been occupied by Maha Sing. I found it necessary to return to Quilon: the Public Cutcherry is at this place: and the state of affairs here required my presence.

I have carefully considered the conduct of the Dewan; and my anxiety to form just opinions regarding his proceedings has also contributed to delay the transmission of this Report. He seems more deficient in capacity than in good dispositions and principles. To me he has always been most submissive and has constantly manifested an anxiety to follow the rules established for his conduct to evince his attachment to the British Government and the Rajah, and to promote the good of the people. But on leaving me he is sometimes led into error by the suggestions of artful and interested advisers and he adopts measures which he views with extreme regret when their inefficiency is pointed out to him, as his age exceeds 60 years his memory has failed very much, and this circumstances has produced some contradictory orders and on some occasions led me to think he had acted with insincerity-He is anxious to act

from himself and this feeling of his mind induces him frequently to neglect the advice of the principal public servants and occasions much detriment to the affairs of his administration. His temper is sometimes violent but the habitual tendency of his mind inclines to clemency and humanity: a disposition which frequently leads him to pass unpunished delinquencies of some injury to the public interests. He is averse to intrigues: he has not attempted to form any party in his favor: or to conceal any of his proceedings but he is at the same time jealous of the ablest servants in the Cutcherry and slow to consult them. The affairs of the country have fallen into considerable disorder from his want of energy and his lenity to crimes. The Revenues are in arrears: customs, that branch of the public Revenue of which the receipts depend so much upon the vigilance of the administration, scarcity exceed a half of their former amount, and the salaries of the public servants have not been paid for two months at the same time it is proper to state that the Dewan has not with serious contraction in consequence of intrigues at Trivandrum and of reports that the Rannees indisposition towards him would speedily produce his removal. The intentions and principles of the Dewan seem to be very good and the extreme difficulty of finding in this country a person of ordinary integrity and fidelity renders it desirable to retain him in office of that measure can be reconciled to the wishes of the Principle Tumbratty. I do not believe that the Tumbratty entertains any hostility towards the Dewan or is particularly solicitous for his removal. Indeed I have reasons for concluding that sentiments which she expressed to me regarding him proceeded from the suggestion of some persons about her who are offended at his unbinding temper. The Council and assistance of the Resident may render the Dewan's proceedings more efficient until he acquires a sufficient degree of experience in his present office to act with success. But if the Tumbratty should be appointed Regent and continue decidedly hostile to the present Dewan, I see no alternative excepting that of removing him from office; and in this case *Chidmbram Krishna Pillai the person mentioned by the Tumbratty for his successor seems to be eligible for that situation. He succeeds the Dewan as Chief Judge of the Principal Court and is a man of prudence and abilities. Yet I hope it will not be found necessary to make change: when I wrote by last report at Trivandrum I had received from the

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* Chidambaram Krishna Pillai

persons about the Palace and even from many public servants information unfavorable to the principles and dispositions of the Dewan but a deliberate consideration of his conduct has satisfied my mind that the error which he committed and he has certainly committed some, proceeded entirely from bad advice, and want of judgement, and do not impeach the purity of his principles or his attachment to the interests of the allowance.

I have the honour to be

(Sd.)

J. MUNRO,

Resident.

Titles proposed to be addressed to the Principal Tumbratty

Padmoonaben Seveny, Vanjy Durma Vardany,
Raja Rajeswary Rannee Parvidy Baee*

* Padmanabha Sevini Vanchi Dharma Vardhini Raja Rajeswari Rani Parvathi Bayi

6. A RAJA'S COMPLAINT AGAINST HIS MINISTER

Prior to the creation of the post of 'Diwan' in Co chin in the year 1818 A.D. the office of the Prime Minister was known as 'Valiya Sarvadhikaryakkar', and one Kunju Krishna Menon, a favourite of Col- Macaulay was holding this office in 1811 A. D. This was consequent on the deportation of Paliyatt Achan, the hereditary Prime Minister of Co chin who supported Velu Tampi, Dalawa of Travancore in the revolt against the British in 1809 A. D.

Reproduced below is a translation letter in Persian addressed to the British Government by the then Raja of Cochin complaining against the mal-administration and various other atrocities committed by Kunju Krishna Menon. It is of interest to note that the Raja had to prefer a complaint against his own Minister to the British Government for remedial measures.

This is a translation of an original letter in Persian from the collection of 'Persian Letters' preserved in the Regional Archives, Ernakulam.

The mismanagement of public affairs by Sri Kunju Krishna Menon deserves the attention of the historian.

TRANSLATION OF A PERSIAN LETTER

Your kind and gracious letter dated 26th January has arrived and its contents have been noted. You write regarding the remittance of the Paishkash and of the expenses of the army. This has also been noted. Dear Sir, Kunju Krishnan ever since his appointment has been squandering large sums of money and has been doing many things without my knowledge. He does not observe the practice obtaining in the time of my ancestor, things which we not done without the knowledge of my predecessors are not being done by him just as he likes. He has in various ways treated me and my sisters with disrespect. He had removed the husbands of my sisters from the palaces and kept them under arrest and sent them to their native places. He has not remitted the revenue collected to the Company, hence such difficult have arisen. When Your Excellency was in Madras, viz., after your departure. I frequently wrote and ordered Kunju Krishnan not to apply the collected revenues to any other purposes than the payment of the Paishkash. As regards this, Your Excellency issued orders that until your arrival everything should be done in accordance with the arrangements made by Col. Macaulay. I also have issued orders accordingly. Even now Kunju Krishnan has squandered a vast sum of money without my knowledge. He has removed old officers and appointed new men in their stead without my sanction. He has appointed men without my permission to collect the amount of the lease on tobacco and the land taxes

and has spent the amount collected just as he pleased In the matter of leases he has not made proper enquiring and consequently there has been serious loss. Thus is he behaving. He has fixed a paltry amount for the personal expenses of myself and my sisters and even this he does not pay regularly. He stops all necessaries. He spends more than the amount fixed for him. He has many private servants and spends on his own authority. The presents fixed to be given to my servants on festival days are not given by him, nor the cloths required for me and my sisters. An added difficulty is that we have no other income. In accordance with the orders of Your Excellency Kunju Krishnan is being daily enjoined to remit the amount of the Paishkash and to bring and deliver a receipt of the said amount. But he has not yet produced either the receipts of the amount or the account of income and expenditure and thus has been made it necessary for the issuing of orders to remit the amount of the Paishkash. Kunju Krishnan has not been zealous in the collection of Revenues and hence delayed payment. I am very sorry on this account. The orders that are issued by Your Excellency as regards the payment of the Paishkash will not be communicated to me unless Kunju Krishnan is ordered to do so. (One line is not intelligible). There was a Brahmin with Kunju Krishnan. His name was "Witerti". He has taken much from me and from the people and made mischief between Your Excellency and me. It is understood that he has now come to you to tell tales against me, whatever he says there, I am sure Your Excellency will pay no attention to it. As your arrival is being delayed, I propose to come to you to represent matters personally but I should get your orders. I was in manifold difficulties when the news of Your Excellency's arrival from Madras, came, removed my pain and troubles and when Your Excellency arrived at Trivandrum I heard a great deal about your good qualities and was much pleased and obtained my desire I fully believe that after meeting you my pain, trouble and difficulties will be entirely removed. I am energetically working night and day in the interests of the company.

Dated 4th Kanni 986, (As far as possible a true translation).
Malabari.

(Sd.)
Offg· Persian and Hindustani
Translator of Government.

7. A DIWAN'S COMPLAINT AGAINST THE RULER

In the foregoing pages we have presented the complaint of a Raja of Cochin against his Diwan Kunju Krishna Menon to the British Government. Reproduced below is a letter from Seshagiri Row, the Diwan of Cochin, addressed to Col. W. Morrison, the British Resident, pointing out the Raja's Squandering of public funds for private purposes. (8th June 1929). This contrast may be interesting.

Cochin, 8th June, 1829.

Respected Sir,

With every respect I take the liberty to inform you that I had in my letter of the 5th last month informed you with the intention of His Highness expending a large sum of money contrary to custom on account of the Netiar Ammah's daughter Lakshmy having arrived to the age of puberty but I have now to acquaint you that instead of the 1600 rupees which was then ordered has expended Rs. 2612 and 74 reas and sent a theettooram to insert it in the account, the translation of which I this day send in the regular way for your sanction and approbation.

It appears in the theettooram that some little sum is expended for the "choroonoo" or first rice giving ceremony to the child of Elamanah Netiar Ammah by making jewels with the sum of Rs. 250 given in the usual manner for this purpose however it is no doubt that as the money is disbursed it must be carried into account but I think it is very much necessary that the Rajah should be apprized to shorten such unnecessary expenses for the future as this is an instance which never before occurred even for the royal family, as otherwise I fear much that the regular rule heretofore observed to obtain first the permission of the Resident for all extra charges will be abolished and His Highness will be everything as the Rajah considers proper and that also at a time that the Sirkar cannot bear the weight of them when I am sorry to say that it will not only deviate the established discipline but I shall be at a loss to transact the affairs of the Government with that due regularity consequently

for the communication of it with the Rajah, and for the purpose of inserting the amount above said in the account, "I should think advisable to postpone until your arrival here, or otherwise I leave it to your best and superior judgment. I further beg leave to bring for your information that a few days ago the Palace Peragah Venkitasubbiah had come to me and said that the Rajah ordered him to acquire me that His Highness intends to send a theettooram to insert from the sum of 2600 and odd rupees expended on account of the Netiar Ammah's daughter Lakshmy 1000 Rs. as disbursed for having made satias etc., to the Brahmans and at the pagoda but from my having said that it is improper for a sovereign of the country to commit such intrigues and that will sottle an example to others to carry on fraud His Highness was pleased to change mind and send theettooram the translation of which 1 now send accompanied with this.

With full hopes that you are in the enjoyment of perfect health and happiness and with hopes of having the pleasure of soon seeing you I most humbly beg the acceptance of my salams.

I remain, etc.,

(Sd.)

SESHAGIRI Row,

Diwan.

To

Colonel W. Morrison, C. B.,

Trivandrum.

8. APPOINTMENT OF THE FIRST DIWAN IN COCHIN

It was in the year 1818 A. D. that the post of the Diwan was created for the first time in Cochin as the administrative head of the State and Shri Nanjappayya was the first Indian to be appointed to this high office. Here is a translation of the 'Thetooram' of Appointment defining the various duties and functions of the Office of the Diwan.

Having appointed you (Nanjappa Iyer) Dewan of my State, you will discharge annually the Honorable Company's subsidy, the amount of the Established allowance of Devaswom, Brahmaswom, Ootporahs, Water pandals and other charitable institutions, the Nithiachalavu allowances, salary of servants of the Territory and conduct all the duties of this State and acquaint me. You will also in order to conserve forever the alliance and friendship existing between myself and the Honourable Company, consult the Resident on all occasions and report the same to me and conduct the duties of your office with vigilance and render the people of the country happy.

9. REDUCTION IN PEISHKASH-COCHIN RAJA REJOICES

This is a letter from the Raja of Cochin to the Governor General expressing his happiness, in effecting reduction in Peishkash (Subsidy) to be paid to the British Government. Copy of the letter in Persian is reproduced below.

Your Excellency, benefactor, appreciator, charisher of sincere friends, May your fortune and gifts endure!

After tendering sincere greetings may it be manifested to your enlightened and gracious mind that your kind letter dated 17th October 1818 arrived on the 4th March 1819. On hearing its contents read, I and all my family derived much pleasure.

Your Excellency writes with reference to the reduction of the peishkash from my State, that the Governor of Madras will pass orders after consideration. I was exceedingly pleased at this good news and I now await the said Governor's commands.

Recently the kind letters have been received from the said Governor. The first written on the 27th Jamadi-us-sani 1234 Hijra regarding the appointment by his Excellency the Governor Sahab of Major Mc Dowell Sahib Bahadur as representative (Madaral-Muham) of the Supreme Government of the Hon'ble English Company-may its Majesty endure!- in my State and the second dated 3rd Rajah of the same year conveying the order reducing the annual peishkash paid by my State to the Supreme Government by seventy-six thousand and thirty-seven rupees from the 1st of last january were received through the Resident Major M.c. Dowell, on the 29th Sheben and the 4th Ramasen of the same year 1324 respectively.

On hearing their contents read, I and all my family derived much pleasure and delight. Your Excellency and His Honour the Governor have, by decreasing the Peishkash relieved us, your sincere friends, of a heavy burden and made us glad. Therefore all of us well-wishers, in returning thanks for this kindess will ever pray to the Court of the Divine-great is his dignity!- for the continual

advancement of the position, state and safety of your Excellency and the said Governor Sahib and of the officers of the Sirkars Government as long as the sun and moon endure.

I was concerned about the departure of the Resident Sahib lest there should be no one like him to enquire into the affairs of my State or to aid and assist in the administration thereof and hence my State would be in disorder But from the arrival and meeting of the above mentioned Resident Sahib I have derived much pleasure and joy and the anxiety, which 1 had on my mind, was at once removed. My more earnest desire is that this Resident may always remain in my State of Cochin so that by means of his looking into matters and his weighty counsel the two Governments may be adormed with the best regulations and that there may be even more unity and concord between the two Governments than those previously existed by virtue of the excellent endeavours of the former Resident Sahib. I hope you will continually writs and delight one with the glad tidings of your welfare and the enhancement of your own dignity and fortune. There is nothing more to represent. Written on the 12th Ramazan 1234 Hijra.

(As far as possible a true translation)

(Sd.)

Offig. Pers & Hind.

Translatlr to Government

10. LEVY OF WEDDING FEE FROM SYRIAN CHRISTIANS

It is interesting to find that a special cess known as "Wedding Fee" was levied from the Syrian Christian subjects of Cochin State in former days for the performance of marriage ceremonies. Reproduced below is a translation of proclamation of the year 1821 A. D. abolishing this tax.

A proclamation from the Cochin Diwan Nanjapiah dated 5th June 1821.

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Whereas by demanding Coyat Poonco, Rachabogam Changadom and some other fees from the Nasurany or Syrian Christian Inhabitants of this country many grievance to them and very little interest to the Circar, wherefore orders had been issued not to collect the abovesaid fees; but by not being withdrawn from the accounts the Circar servants prevailed to collect the said fees if possible in consequence of which it caused much miseries to the poor Christians wherefore His Highness the Rajah has been pleased to confer on them the favour to issue orders to strike of the same from the accounts and not to demand it in future; it is therefore hereby made known to all that from this day the arrears as well as the future accumulating fees are relinquished for the enjoyment of the future happiness of the Syrian Christian of this country and should any of the Circar servants endeavour to collect such fees hereafter they shall be delivered in Court and punished accordingly.

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*Wedding Fees

** Personal

*** Acknowledgement of the crown.

11. TRIAL BY ORDEAL

'Trial by Ordeal' was prevalent in Kerala in earlier days to prove one's innocence. This was practised with the concurrence of the Rulers. Consequent on the establishment of the British Supremacy over the Native States approval of the British Resident was also necessary in such matters. The following letter dated 27th February 1824 from the British Resident to the Diwan of Cochin reveals that the British viewed this practice with extreme contempt.

To

The Diwan of Cochin

Nanjapiah,

I have received your letter dated 25th instant accompanied by Memmorandum No.78 of 999.

The trial by ordeal has long since been abolished in all Civilized Countries; it is well known that such trial is not a test of innocence or guilt; as there are many preparation, which on being applied to the part about to be immersed in boiling fluid, completely protect it from injury. Under a consideration of the circumstance, and from the barbarity of the practice, I cannot sanction the request of Tombail Romen Kunden, such a proceeding would be highly disgraceful to the Government of His Highness the Rajah of Cochin.

Yours faithfully

(Sd.)

D. NEWALL,

Resident.

Quilon,

27th February, 1824.

12. EDAPPALLY CEDED TO TRAVANCORE

It was in the year 1820 A. D. that the petty principality of Edappally was ceded to Travancore by the Cochin Raja. The directive issued by the British Resident in this regard is produced below.

To

His Highness the Rajah of Cochin,

I have been directed to inform your Highness that the Hon'ble the Governor in Council has determined that the small State of Edappally shall be replaced under the protection of Travancore in the same manner as it was previously to the arrangements made in the end of the year 1820.

Your Highness is therefore requested to make the necessary arrangements for carrying the intention of Government into effect.

(Sd,)

Cochin, D. NEWALl,

12th February 1825. *Resident.*

13. CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGES

In Cochin about a century and half ago people had to pay "NAZZAR" (a kind of tax) and obtain Royal permission to celebrate Weddings a little gaily. But gaiety included even such a harmless edible as a large-sized "Pappadam",

No.30 of 1002.

Reply from the Diwan of Cochin to the petition No. 30 of 1826, Ernakulam 11th January 1827.

The petitioner states that he wants permission to celebrate a marriage at his house by firing kadanas (a small kind of cannons) play, Malabar music and to use Valia Pappadam (a cake made of orid) and sugar etc. on the occasion without the obstruction of the individuals that have got license to perform these ceremonies.

These graendeurs cannot be operated by all persons except those that have obtained the sanction of His Highness, having asked the petitioner whether he performed any wedding before in this manner he wishes now to do, he said that he neither his elders had not done it is therefore necessary that he should pay nazzar and get leave from His Highness to conduct the same.

14. PUBERTY CEREMONY IN THE ROYAL FAMILY

An interesting record relating to the performance of Puberty ceremony in the Cochin Royal Family a century ago is given below.

Translation of a Theettooram from His Highness the Raja of Cochin to Diwan Seshagiri Row dated Tripunithurah 4th Dhanu or 17th December 1827.

Ernakulam 30th March 1828.

Kunnadath Lakshmy's niece (sister's daughter) Echa having arrived to the age of puberty and as 164¾ rupees and 1¼ reas was given in the year 1000 when Kunnadath Kunji Ikkav's sister arrived to this age for the performance of the necessary ceremonies on the occasion, I am determined to allow the same sum now also and as these expenses are additional ones, you will give the amount and insert it in the accounts.

(Sd.)

SESHAGIRI Row,

Diwan.

15. CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLATION OF CASTE CUSTOMS

Harsh and sometimes heinous were the punishments meted out to violators of caste customs. The State so jealously guarded these customs that when the community was unable to proceed against the offender, it stepped in on behalf of the community. Here is an instance of Cochin proposing to meet the expense of a Samarthavicharam of a Namputiri Woman in 1829.

To

Colonel W. Morrison, C.B.,
British Resident in Travancore & Cochin.

Sir,

A widow woman of the house of Kunnathil Nambury residing at Poodoorkarah murry in Trichur District having been reported in the month of Chingom last to have been defiled of her caste by a Nair, and as the Nambury was unable to bear the expenses of the usual investigation of the case in consequence of his property having been appropriated to the Sirkar by the former Rajahs the polluted woman was according to the order of His Highness brought and tried in the regular manner at Tripunithurah by the Nambury community and determind to shove her out of the Nambury caste, consequently a theettooram is sent by His Highness' under date the 1st instant ordering to pay and insert in the accounts the sum of Rs. 401 and 32 reas on account of the expenses attended during the time of the examination of the case and as well as for the expense which will require to perform the customary ceremonies on the proclamation of the woman being corrupted I have therefore the honour to request you will be pleased to instruct me with your sentiments for the payment of the amount as it ought to be given,

I have the honour to be, etc.,

(Sd.)

SESHAGIRI Row,
Diwan.

Ernakulam in Cochin,
9th June 1829.

16. PAYMENT OF GURUDAKSHINA

'Gurudakshina' or the preceptor's fee had a very important place in teacher-pupil relationship in Bharat in former times. The following record shows how even a Raja was anxious to fulfill his obligation to his gurus.

[Translation of a theettooram from His Highness the Rajah of Cochin to Diwan Seshagiri Row dated Tripunithura, 1st Karkitagom 1004 or 4th July 1820]

That soon after the Tirumasom[1] ceremony is finished it being necessary to begin to sign and as it cannot be done without first giving Guru Dakshina[2] or present to the teacher that taught me, my brother and sister and Govindapurath Krishna Pisharody being our master it is determined to give him Rs. 1000 by me, and Rs. 400 each by my brother and sister, and Rs. 700 by me to Arroor Adithiry who also learnt me for some time, as well as 82¾ Rs. and 44 reas to Kallangara Pisharody and Chenos Nambury as was given to them on the occasion of the first time signing by my late uncle in the year 985. You will, therefore, pay the said sums and insert the same in the accounts.

(Sd.)
SESHAGIRI Row,
Diwan.

Ernakulam,
20th July, 1829.

1 Anniversary of death
2 Precepter's Fee

17. VIOLATION OF A MAMOOL (CUSTOM)

It was customary among the erstwhile Princely States to follow mamools and nonobservation of which attracted displeasure from the concerned ruler.

Cochin,
8th August 1829.

Respected Sir,

With every respect I take the liberty to inform you that it is always mamool[1] in Cochin and Travancore Sirkars to supply with the required quantity of sugar into the country of each other on the occasion of performing the Tirumasom[2] ceremony on account of the death of their Highness the Rajahs and the Senior Ammah Tampurans in the royal family, but I regret to say that no sugar was sent from Travancore now on account of the performance of Tirumasom ceremony of the late His Highnecss, the Rajah of Cochin.

I remain, etc.,
(Sd.)
SESHAGIRI Row.
Diwan.

To
Colonel W. Morrison, C.B.,
Bolghatty.

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1 Custom
2 Death Anniversary

18. A PETITION CONCERNING THE JEWS

The Jewish community in Kerala which has a tradition for over centuries has now been reduced to a handful, mainly because of their mass immigration to Israel. The following letter dated 29th April1831 from one Mr. Harrington depicts a complaint concerning the Jews.

To

His Excellency the Acting Dewan of Cochin.

Sir,

I beg to inform you that David J. Mizrai, having, he says, renounced Judaism and about to embrace Christianity, a number of the Jews and Jewesses have combined to use every stratagem to prevent him and I heard they went so far as to say that they would murder him and his family should they attempt to leave Jew Town. On several occasions the Jews stoned his house so violently that the family have fled to my house for refuge on that account. I and Mrs. Harrington allowed them to frequent our place when they thought proper and owing to that a number of the Jews combined against me also and with a view to deter one from allowing them to come to my place, they spread most scandalous falsehood imaginable, to injure my character and that of my family but when they found I paid no attention to their evil and wicked reports they had recourse to other measures. Several of the Jews and Jewesses began to abuse me and my family publicly in the streets and at length one of them in my absence threatened that as soon as I came home to pull me out of the house and spill my blood in the street; and my servants were threatened and insulted in such a manner that I could scarcely prevail on them to get out to purchase the necessaries we required and on my complaining to the Naique of the abuse, when he sent his peon, the jews abused them to their face and used them contemptuously; and utterly refused to obey the Dewan's orders and when I found that they began to threaten and abuse the Police Officers I considered myself in danger and removed immediately to the Fort leaving behind me the property belonging to the Society and part of my own unprotected.

When I left Jew Town I lodged a regular complaint against some of the Jews and Jewesses with the Tanner Naique but he has not yet been able to do

anything-a circumstance no doubt he has made you acquainted with, therefore I beg of Your Excellency to take cognizance of the scandalous behavior of some of the Jews towards me and to give orders that the matter may be brought to a speedy termination and the guilty punishment. I also beg that you will give directions to the Naique for the security of the Society's property in Jew Town, as I am afraid to go there to look after it until affairs are settled.

The present state of Jew Town demands proper attention for if the Jews are not checked, it is probable you may soon hear of very unpleasant circumstances occurring in Jew Town. The common language among many of the Jews, is, this is our street we will do what we think proper no witness and no one dare touch us-we are not afraid of the Saibs or anyone. Some of their own elder remarked to me that unless the Diwan would appoint ahead over them with a little authority to keep them in order, quiet people could not live long in Jew Town and the outrages committed upon David Mizrais house and the insults, I have received lately myself may justify the above eremarks.

Permit me to remark that having received no redress to a former complaint which I made to you, the Jews have taken this liberty with me-therefore I beg of Your Excellency to take notice of my complaint now and redress my grievances lest something of a more serious nature take place, for as I above stated, Jew Town is in a most lamentable state.

I am, Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

Cochin, (Sd.)

29th April 1831. A. HARRINGTON.

19. CONCESSIONS GRANTED TO CHRISTIAN SUBJECTS

The Christian subjects of Cochin were exempted from contributing to the Pagodas, working on Sundays and other festival days by a Proclamation of the year 99 M.E. (1816- A.D.) In his letter 25 November, 1833 reproduced below, the British Resident on the basis of a representation from the aggrieved Christians directs the Diwan to enforce the rule.

To

The Diwan of Cochin.

Sankara Menon,

In transmitting to you the enclosed original Malayalam petition from certain Christians to the address of the Bishop of Verapoly I request you will be good enough to send a circular order to all the District Servants not to infring the proclamation published in the year 991 exempting the Christian subjects of His Highness the Rajah from contributing to the pagodas etc. and working on Sundays and other festival days.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.)

E. CADOGAN,

Ag. Resident

Cochin,

25th November 1833.

20. THOMAS MUNRO ASSUMES OFFICE AS GOVERNOR

In the Regional Archives, Ernakulam there is a small collection of records "Persian" covering the years 1785 to 1835 A.D. which mainly consist of correspondence between the Raja of Cochin and the British Paramount Power. These records perhaps bear testimony to the fact that diplomatic correspondence of the British with the Native Rulers were carried on in Persian during the earlier period of the British supremacy. English translation of these records appear to have been by the Persian & Hindustani Translators to the Government of Madras, long ago. Reproduced below is a translation of a letter from the collection.

To

The brave, illustrious and benign Raja Sahib-May God, exalted be He Preserve him!

During these happy days, the Government of Madras has devolved upon me in accordance with the decisions of the Honourable members of the Executive Board of the Hon'ble English Company. Therefore in order to enlighten your fragrant mind I have the pleasure to state that I have assumed charge the duties of the office and to hereby inform your Highness of the fact and to assure you that I shall use all my seal and power to endeavor to preserve the former friendly relations and to maintain the degree of sincere cordiality which by the Grace of God, exaulted be He, are firmly established between the two Governments. There is nothing more to be written.

Received 14th Ramzan

Dated, 28th Shaban A. H. 1234

(Sd.)

Offg· Persian & Hind.

Translator to Govemmmt.

21. PROHIBITION OF THE KILLING OF COWS

Today when the question of prohibiting cow slaughter has become a matter of public discussion it would be interesting to go through a Memo submitted on 17th June 1837 to the Acting Diwan of Travancore by the British Resident desiring to know His Highness' sentiments regarding the introduction of a regulation prohibiting the killing of cows at Trivandrum and whether the prohibition is applicable to Christians as to other Hindus.

No. 1059/1837.

MEMO

1 With reference to the Memo No. 716 under date the 16th instant from the Acting Diwan of Travancore the Resident begs to return the two original documents to which it gave cover.

2. In the remarks on the case which occurred at Trivandrum in February 1829, the Resident Colonel Morrison states that a regulation may be made prohibiting the killing of cows at Trivandrum by any provision whatsoever.

3. The Resident cannot learn whether a Regulation to this effect was ever published or not, but supposing it to have been so, the terms in which it was to be expressed would rather imply that altho' not at Trivandrum cows might yet be killed at other places.

4. The Resident request therefore that the Acting Diwan will communicate on this subject with His Highness the Raja, and let him know distinctly what His Highness' sentiments are respecting it.

5. The Resident is informed that distinction is observed between the slaughter of Bullocks and cows and that the killing of the former is not so objectionable as that of latter. He will be glad to know if this is the case. And also whether it is His Highness' wish that prohibition in this matter, to whatever extent it may be carried shall be equally applicable to Native Christians as to other Hindoos, and if to Native Christians whether His Highness wishes the prohibition to extend also to European Gentlemen.

6. The whole case should be clearly understood in order that no misunderstanding regarding it may occur hereafter.

Rest Office, (Sd.) Trivandrnm,
Resident.
17th June 1837.

22. ANNUAL ALLOWANCE OF THE RULERS

As early as 1837, the Ruler of the erstwhile Cochin State was enjoying an annual allowance to the tune of Rs. One lakh. It would be interesting to know how this amount was utilized for various purposes.

To

Colonel J. S. Fraser,
British Resident of Travancore & Cochin.

Sir,

1. I have the honour to inform you that I have received a theettooram dated 12th Dhanu from His Highness directing me in regard to the established allowances of himself and the 2nd Rajah to make the necessary arrangements consequent on the heath of His Highness the late Rajah.

2. I take this opportunity to state the following particulars on the subject of the allowances of the Rajahs of Cochin. A lakh of rupees constitute the annual allowance for His Highness's establishments. Of this sum, 50,000 rupees are appropriated to His Highness's personal and house-hold expenses, 10,000 rupees to meet extra charges, 20,000 rupees are annually expended in the celebration of birthday and other usual ceremonies and the remainder (20,000 rupees) is deposited in the Huzur Treasury to meet the expenses of marriages, funerals, choroonoo and all other State ceremonies.

3. The established allowance of the 2nd Rajah is rupees 6072 per annum paid by monthly installments of 506 rupees.

4. That of the 3rd Rajah is rupees 3, 962¾ per annum or rupees 330-3-8 per mensem. The present 3rd Rajah being only 13 years old, there will be a saving to the Sirkar of the latter sum for the next three years, or until he attains the age of 16, when he will receive the Brahmanical thread, after the performances of which ceremony only he will be entitled to the established allowance of the 3rd Rajah of Cochin.

5. If it meets with your approval I will cause the arrangements which form the

subject of His Highness's theettooram to have effect from the 23rd Thulam the day of the late Rajah's death.

I have the honour to be, etc.,

(Sd.)

Ernakulam, T. VENKITASUBBIAH

29th December 1837. *Diwan.*

23. PRINTING PRESS AND ITS ESTABLISHMENT

Today the Printing Press is well known even to Ordinary People. Though Printing industry had its origin in foreign countries, it spread to India towards the end of the 18th century.

The documents cited here relate to the establishment of the first Printing Press in Travancore and represent one of the major steps towards the modernization of social life taken under the sanction of Sri Swati Thirunal Maharaja. It reveals the modest beginnings of the Printing industry which plays a vital role in the Socio-political life of the State at present.

The acting Diwan addressed in the letters was Ranga Rao.

No. 142 / 1838

To

The Acting Diwan of Travancore.

Sir,

As I understand, by letter from Trivandrum that the business of the printing press is getting on but very slowly for want of a proper person to Superintend it, I beg to recommend that you immediately endeavour to procure from Madras a properly qualified person for the purpose of directing the Establishment and personally assisting in the various working departments of the Press.

I think this object will best be effected by you requesting Mr. Roberts to write on the subject without delay to Mr. Carstains, who I am persuaded will be happy to afford us on this occasion every assistance in his power.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

(Sd.)

COL. FRASER,

Resident.

Rest's Office,
Cochin,
23rd January 1838.

From,

The Bh. Resident;
Travancore.

Dated 23"
Despatched } January 1838.
Received.

G.No. 142
D.No. 41

ENOLOSURE

Sub: Persons to superintend the Printing Press.

Requests to procure from Madras some proper persons to superintend the working of the Printing Press.

No. 212/1838

To

The Acting Diwan of Travancore.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 164 under

date the 5th instant, and to state that your temporary transfer of the Printing Establishment and apparatus to Mr. Caldecott seems to be, under the circumstances of the case, entirely an unobjectionable measure.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant

Rest's Office,
Cochin,
8th February 1838.

(Sd.)
COL. FRASER,
Resident.

From

The Bh. Resident,
Travancore.

Dated 8th
Despatched } February 1838
Received

G.No. 212
D.No. 63

ENCLOSURE

Sub:- Transfer of Printing Establishment.

Agrees with him in the temporary transfer of the Printing establishment and apparatus to Mr. Caldecott.

24. SALARY OF MALAYALAM SCHOOL TEACHERS

In 1836, the Salary of a Malayalam School Teacher in Cochin State, Which was famous for its high percentage of literacy, was Rs. 5 per mensem. It is all the more surprising that a further reduction in this salary was ordered in order to provide the post of a Superintendent over the School masters on a monthly pay of Rs. 5.

ORIGINAL

Translation of a Theetooram from His Highness the Rajah of Cochin to Diwan Venkitasubbiah dated 15th Dhanu 1013.

The Malayalam School masters employed in the several Districts of the Sirkar on a salary of Rs. 5 each per mensem have, for want of a head or Superintendent, proved inattentive to their duties and consequently the children have not made sufficient progress is their studies. You will therefore entertain Hainee Variathu Raman who was with my late cousin, as Superintendent over the School masters, from the salary of each of whom a rupee month or 6 rupees altogether must be deducted of which 5 rupees must be established as the monthly pay of the Superintendent and the balance of a rupee carried to the credit of the Sirkar.

This appointment to have effect from the 16th Dhanu.

(Sd.)

T. VENKITASUBBIAH,

Diwan.

25. CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN DISTRICT COLLECTOR, MALABAR AND MADRAS GOVERNMENT

Many observers gave remarks on the economic backwardness of the Malabar District of the Madras Presidency in the 19th Century. This document is of historical as well as contemporary interest as it provides details of the economic backwardness of the northern region of Malabar and causes of poverty of the less fortunate sections of society.

To

The President and Members of the Revenue Board, Fort St. George.

Gentlemen,

1. I have now the honour to reply to your Secretary's letter dated, the 12th October last, the subject of which refers to an Extract from a letter to Government addressed by the Judge and Magistrate in the Zillah of North Malabar, pressing upon the attention of the Honourable the Governor in Council the State of poverty of the lower orders of the Inhabitants in that Zillah representing the causes whence, in his opinion their indigence arises and suggesting remedies for their corrections, as far as those causes are stated to be involved in the existing Revenue arrangements.
2. I feel the importance which the Board attach to a clear exposition of the Revenue system now prevailing in Malabar, with its effects on its internal prosperity and shall endeavour to afford the information required, in the manner which is expected from me.
3. On the subject of the salt monopoly exclusively of the information which my report of the 11th of July will have conveyed to your Board, I have now to state that the price of salt in Malabar before the introduction of the monopoly, varied in different parts of the Province, according to the local population, and the extent of the salt pans where that article was manufactured.
4. By the accompanying statement, which shows that was the average price of salt in each year in every District during a series of six year in every District monopoly, it appears, that the retail price of salt in those

Districts now composing the Northern Zillah of Malabar fluctuated in Fusly 1210 from S.Ps. 5.30 P.m. to S.Ps 8.34 per grace. In Fusly 1211 from S.Ps. 5.30 p.m. to S.Ps. 7.36 per grace- in Fusly 1212 from S.Ps. 5.30 p.m. to S.Ps. 11.12 per grace. In Fusly 1213 from S.Ps. 5.30 p.m. to S.Ps. 9.24 per grace. In Fusly 1214 from S.ps 5.30 p.m. to S.Ps 7.36 per grace and in Fusly 1215 from S.Ps 5.12 p.m. to S.Ps. 7.36 per grace, Which different prices give an average price of nearly *S. Pagodas per grace.

5. The monopoly price of salt at the Government Golahs was originally S. Pagodas 20 per grace. It was afterwards raised to Star Pagodas 25 and 27 Per grace for the reasons explained in my report of the 11th of July and since the commencement of the current Fusly, it has been fixed at Star Pagodas 25 P. Grace in consequence of the lower rates at which last has been purchased for the monopoly.

6. At the last mentioned price an Individual can purchase at the Government Golahs for a single Madras fanam 4 seers of salt.

7. The inhabitants, living in the interior of the country cannot of course obtain the article at that rate,-The charges of carriage, profit of the several intermediate retailers-The charges of carriage, profit of the several intermediate retailers-loss for wastage and other accidental causes may be supposed to raise the price to them about 70 percent, but it should at the same time, be kept in mind; that the price of grain in the interior is cheaper and the land assessment regulated accordingly.

8. So that the relative situation of the ryots along the coast, and in the interior, may be considered to be on an equality and the only point remaining to be discussed seems to be whether the lower orders of the people, can, out of their earnings afford to purchase salt, at the present price adequate to a frugal consumption:-

9. For this purpose, I shall estimate the consumption of salt by each individual, according to the ration which the average sale of salt in one year, for internal consumption bears to the population of the country.

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* Pagodas

10. Taking the average of the sales in Fuslies 1218, 1219 and 1220 fifteen hundred grace of salt may be taken as the quantity, consumed in Malabar in one year, which distributed on a population of 7,00,000 souls (the number returned by an account seven years ago) allows 6 seers of salt per head in one year.

Correspondence between District Collector Malabar and Madras Government-April 1841 to October 1843 (Contd.)

The land tax is the next subject on which the Board require information as to its inequality or over assessment under assessment and exemption from all assessment.

The land tax now collected is founded on the commissioners Jumma or Rental of the Malabar year 976 corresponding with the year 1800/1. That Jumma was founded on the quinquennial settlement which was made with the Rajahs of Malabar in the year 1794/3 and that quinquennial settlement was 970 founded on the Jumma Bandy which was framed by Tippoo's Head Aumuldar Arshed Begkhan in the Malabar year 959/1783.

On leasing the country to Rajahs, native Revenue Officers called Canangoes, were attached to the different Districts to keep an account of the collections and to check any over exactions which might be attempted by the Rajahs officers.

On resuming the collections from the power of the Rajahs, who were found unequal to that duty assistant Collectors were appointed in charge of separate Districts. The Circle of collection which each of these assistant Collectors had entrusted to him, did not exceed the limits of a common Tehseeldary yielding an annual Revenue from 20,000 to 40,000 Pagodas.

In these times of disturbances it often became necessary for the assistant to collect the Revenue in person from the Ryots, never I believe was then such a circumstance head of, as a Ryot not knowing what Revenue he had to pay. If there really happened to be any cause for complaint, such as may have originally in the time of the Rajahs, by reducing through partially, the assessment of one man, and putting it upon another, the assistant was on the spot to enquire into and correct such abuses-Lands exempted from assessment, were gradually discovered by his vigilance, and brought on the assessment and

where over assessment really existed reductions were made, after being duly reported to, and sanctioned by the Commissioners. Your Board are not to understand from this that any particular principle of assessment had been established which was to be applicable to every District in Malabar. No such principles existed. In one District the proprietor enjoyed only 2/8 of the rent of his land, in others 3/8 and in some, particularly in Northern Division they enjoyed one half. No two estates perhaps were assessed alike, and the best rule of guidance as to an estate being over assessed, was to ascertain if it was cultivated, or laying fallow for the natural effect of over assessment, is abandonment of the property so burthened. I mean this observation to apply particularly to seed land, and to land thrown into gardence or orchards though it might apply equally to them. The rice fields which from the principal source of Revenue in Malabar were thus unequally assessed in every estate in the country. The Gardens and other lands were as unequally assessed. It is of no consequence how this inequality arose. It existed them and will always exist in spite of the most earnest endeavours to make it otherwise. On this unequal assessment was the Revenue from the Inhabitants called upto 976 when the Commissioners were removed and Major Macleod was appointed to the Province.

Major Macleod framed a now Jammabundy by which the Government Revenue was argument but the assessment itself in regard to inequality was as defective as the former one.

On the succession of Major Macleod Mr. Richards succeed him when the Commissioner's Jammabundy was restored which was continued ever since.

During Mr. Richard's administration the inequality of the assessment was a subject to which he devoted a great deal of his time and attension. He wished to establish some fixed principle of assessment to be introduced throughout the Province and for this purpose assembled the Senior Rajahs, and Chief Proprietors both from North and South Malabar and after a long consultation in which the subject underwent a very minute impartial, and most liberal discussion certain principles were agreed to for assessing every species of landed property which were subscribed by all.

This paper was forwarded to Government with a very able report and received the approval and confirmation of the Governor in Council, and the orders for framing the new assessment on those principles were received by me when I succeeded Mr. Richards.

The first step I took to effect this desirable object was to obtain from the landed proprietors themselves under their respective signature, a detailed account of their landed property. The number of rice fields they possessed, their names, extent, and net rent, and a similar account of their garden lands with a specification of the number of assessable trees, they contain how many past bearing from age How many not bearing from maturity and how many fruitful or bearing. These accounts were required to be subjoined by a written declaration that they had rendered a true and faithful account, that they had concealed nothing, and would willingly forfeit to Government every particle of the property which might hereafter be discovered to have omitted.

I have two objects in view in cutting for this account. The first was to obtain the name of every field in the country which was to serve as a ground for an actual survey. And the second, was to obtain an accurate numerical account of the assessable trees which was to regulate the assessment on the garden land. I judged that the proprietors would be induced to be accurate in these two items because any falsity in either was easily detectable and they, knew that the Government assessment as only to be fixed on the rent payable to the proprietor in their account of which, it was not to be expected that they would be at all correct.

I had the assistance at this time of four subordinate collectors through when the accounts of the proprietors were to be furnished, and the sub collectors themselves were individually required to ascertain the actual produce on different qualities of soil in different part of their Divisions.

My object here was to have satisfactory data or grounds of information, which were to direct me how to class the soil in every Taluk in the province and what rate of produce to allow for such soil after the survey have been completed which I did divulge my intention of undertaking until all these documents should be supplied.

My instructions on this subject to the subordinate collector's were very minute and were in due course mostly fully executed, as were the orders to the landed proprietors.

After being furnished with all these documents, I took the necessary measures for commencing on the laborious work of surveying the Rice Lands - To assist me in this novel undertaking I was assisted by the Board of Revenue with some very valuable documents which with others sent to me by the Collector in Coimbatore connected with Major Macleod's survey of that

District enabled me to frame a set of instructions for the surveyors which appeared to me to be well adapted to the localities of this Province.

The Surveyors were procured for me by the kind exertions of the Collector in Coimbatore and were all foreigners to this country. They entered on their duty in the year 1806 after four years labour the work was completed and there it rests.

The several changes which afterwards took place brought with them such an accumulation of duty and trouble upon me with diminished means of getting through them, being left almost entirely to native assistance, that the new assessment with everything connected with it, has for some time back been laid aside, and the Revenue of the province have been con-to be collected on the Commissioners Jumma of 976.

Not a single alternation has been made by me in the Land Revenue Jumma of the Northern Division of Malabar, since the Magistrate at Tellicherry was transferred to the situation he now fills. The very some Revenue Officers with a few exceptions are employed now in the collections as were in office in his time.

The Revenue were then regularly collected and continued to be regularly collected till within the last two years when the complaints of over assessment started up in the Carknad District, after the Magistrates reception and transmission directed to Government of the complaint of one of the principal holders in carknad, a copy of which was referred to me in your Secretary letter of the 13th April 1811.

Since then and within the last twelve months every Hobely in the District of Carknad has petitioned to me complaining of over assessment, that they had from year to year by the gradual disposal of their substance hither to been able to pay the assessment but they had now sold their all and can longer continue it.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN DISTRICT COLLECTOR, MALABAR & MADRAS GOVERNMENT - (contd.)

A labourer with a wife and family, say of four children will require 36 years of salt, which bought at the Government Gollahs will cost him 8 Madras Fanams. He buys however from the Petty Retainers and allowing for the imposition they practice let it be admitted that his annual expenditure in salt costs him 1½ Rupee.

On the same principle of calculation I will here estimate what his probable consumption in Tobacco will cost him.

Taking the average of the sales in Fuslies 1218, 1219 and 1220 eleven hundred candies of Tobacco, of 640 Ibs per candy is the quantity consumed in one year. But as one third of the actual consumption in those years was probably supplied through the means of smuggling. Fifteen hundred candies may be estimated as the probable quantity of Tobacco consumed in Malabar in one year, which distributed on the grop population allows of about 1/3 Ibs per head.

At this rate, the expenditure in the labourer's family will be equal to nearly 9 Ibs the cost of which, at the price sold by licensed Retailers viz: SPs. 65 per candy is about 4 Rupees, as there are licensed Retailers throughout the country and the Government. Tobacco is sold by all at one and the same price, the allowance of 5 Rupees may be considered ample for this article of consumption

According to the preceding date the expenses of the labourers family in salt and Tobacco will amount within the year to nearly Seven Rupees, I shall now advert to what may be supposed to be his earnings.

A common labour, in the Northern Divisions of Malabar will earn nearly 5 Rupees per month-Let his earnings estimated at 50 Rupees per annum, his wife's at 30 Rs., and those of his children allowing that two of them, not adults, are capable of working at 30 Rupees more. Their joint earnings at these rates will amount to 110 Rupees.

The direct tax to Government, which the labour has to pay out of this family income is the quit rent for his dwelling which is one Rupee. In the compound, or enclosure of that dwelling he rears plantains, Betel vine, chilly,

pepper, yams, pumpkins and other vegetables at his pleasure, without being liable to a single additional Tax. These productions are easily raised, and cannot occupy much of his daily labour. They may be supposed therefore to add to his means of subsistence. In fact they do very materially.

Before the monopolies were established it is probable, that the actual cost to the laborers Family for Salt and Tobacco, was nearly the same as it is now is; though their cheapness then might have enabled them to consume a larger quantity of each, and they were not perhaps induced to observe the same economy-Admitting however the consumption to have been the same, he has now to pay Seven Rupees for salt and Tobacco, which formerly cost him only 2 Rupees.

The monopolies therefore have produced an indirect Tax of 5 Rupees on his income in addition to the direct Tax for Quit Rent of 1 Rupee, thus making the Total of his present annual contribution to Government bear to his income in the proportion of 6 Rupees to 100 Rupees.

The common food of the lower natives is rice of the coarsest kind, They take it diluted into gruel in the morning, and boiled for their regular meals. Three seers per diem (Company measure) may be considered an ample allowance to maintain the laborer and his family making per annum 1095 seers; the price of which throughout the year, will not cost in above 50 Rupees, and leave him, after paying for Salt and Tobacco and the Government Tax, 60 Rupees for the remaining expenses of his family.

The clothing of the natives of Malabar both male and female being remarkable for its scantiness, a very pittance will suffice on that score of expense-The article of firewood from the native of this country, can cost them little-The native of the country affords the same advantage for constructing, repairing, and thatching their habitations- No where is the coconut, the jack tree, the arica, the pepper, the Bettle vine, more abundant, and their produce (including oil) cheaper than in Malabar. A variety of esculent roots is indigenous to the country, together with the turmeric, and Ginger-Those articles are all within the means of the labourers to supply his humble months.

The labourers are composed of Hindus and Musulmens among the former called Teans, it is a profession to extract the Toddy liquor from the coconut and other palm trees-Those who engage in this occupation take out licenses

for each of which they pay at the rate of 1 Silver fanam per month. The time devoted for, dressing the trees and drawing the toddy occupies about an hour or two before sunrise and the same period after sunset. It hardly interferes with the days labour. A licence taken out by almost every loan family. The Government Tax on the license is intended to operate as indirect duty on the labour of formented liquors, independently of it, a rent is paid to the owner of the trees from which the toddy is extracted, at the rate of 2 Rupees per month for ten trees, the number generally rented by each licence holder. What his own profits are must greatly depend upon local circumstances. It may however be reasonably inferred they cannot be less than the rent he pays to the tree proprietor and that he can feel no distress to pay to Government Tax, which bears, to it, in the proportion of 1 to 10. The Government Tax is no now import - It existed under the Mahomedan Government, and it being entirely optional with the teans to take out licenses, and to relinquish them after wards when they please. I can see no objection against this tax on the ground of its being either immoderate or unreasonable and yet attachment of property have been found necessary to be restored to, to enforce its payment, but it is only against the improvident and profligate that such measures are pursued.

Fishermen are another class falling under the description of the lower orders of the people. The direct tax they pay to Government is a tax on their nets, besides the quit rent on their Huts. No change has ever taken place in the rates of these taxes, though they are different in different parts of the province. The fishermen are an industrious hardy race and without exception, the most peaceable and best disposed of the natives of Malabar. They live in detached villages along the sea coast, acknowledge two or three as their superior in each village, who are responsible for the Government tax, which they pay as the Kists or instalments fall due with undeviating punctuality-Before the Monopoly, it was usual to allow the women of the fishermen, during the season of manufacturing salt to collect, and take away almost grates, what may be termed, the sweeping of the salt pans after each day regular manufacture-What they got was more than four fifths mud, but it served in a great measure for curing their fish. On the monopoly being established the continuance of the above indulgence was solicited in the most urgent manner,-Having ascertained the nature of it and that it could not materially injure the monopoly, I was induced grant it, under cautions admonistions against its abuse-I did consider

the question of sufficient moment to submit for the decision of superior authority had I done so, it might possibly have been negatived on the grounds of its liability to abuse and tendency, to injure the public Revenue-l felt however convinced it could produce no serious loss to Government, at the same time it would operate as a palliative, if favour of the poorer class who all eat fish against the effects of a very obnoxious measure. The Board may feel inclined to reprove me for not reporting this circumstance for its information and I acknowledge myself open to such reproof, but the fact will nevertheless be allowed to be one of the strongest that could be broughts forward to satisfy you Gentlemen, that the salt monopoly in Malabar has been conduct with every attention on my part, to qualify it as much as possible in favour of the poor, and that however it might be complained of as a hard measure on itself there can be no real cause for complaining against the manner it has been carried into effect and since conducted.

In regard to the earnings of the fishermen no probable estimate can be formed. Their habits, and mode of living among themselves, are the same from the highest to the lowest. There is hardly a perceptible difference in their clothing which is the most sparing and filthy that can be imagined, and yet same of their headmen are known to be very pulent. They certainly the means of living cheaper than the- day labourer and supporting a larger family, their conditions may therefore be supposed to be better tho' it is not so visibly apparent in either their persons or habitations.

I think it unnecessary to go into any further detailed description of the various other castes of the natives of North Malabar who may fall under the denomination of the lower orders of the people. I have described the lowest sort amongst them, from which a pretty correct judgment may he found for the condition of the rest.

It must however be brone in mind that my description has been confined to the situation of the industrious and not of the indolent and profligate, who have only themselves to look to and to reprobate for the causes of any poverty of distress which they may suffer. Among these may be classed many of the high orders of the natives both nayrs and Mapillas. These are the people who generally take the lead in complaints of over assessment, and raise the hire and cry out against any measure of Government which may tend to reduce

the means they before commanded of indulging in these excesses. I have attempted to show how far the effects of the salt and Tobacco monopolies calculated on the consumption of the general population have gone to reduce such means. That calculation is certainly not underrated as it refers to the poorest class, and may therefore serve as a good ground for the Board to judge, whether any absolute necessity exists for modifying the present retail prices of these articles.

In as much as the question bear upon the inhabitants below the Ghauts there appears not to may humble opinion any real necessity for a modification unless indeed the Government feel disposed to forego the full Revenue now derived from these monopolies and to reduce the retail prices in all the Districts under the Presidency of Fort St. George. But against such a measure it might be argued that if the inhabitants feel the benefits which the Judicial Courts were intended to confer upon them, they can have no just reason to complain against expedients, to which the Government has resorted to reimburse itself in the heavy expenses which have been incurred in their institution.

In regard however to Wynad, the peculiar situation of its inhabitants may fairly claim in their favour, some modification in the rules of the Tobacco monopoly. The climate being excessively bleak, and cold and the rains continual and violent throughout the year (as that country partakes of both monsoons) the consumption of Tobacco among the natives particularly the paniars, or slaves who cultivate the soil, must considerably greater than what is consumed by the same class of people below the Ghauts- They labour also under the additional hardship of being obliged to pay a very heavy price for salt-But the latter disadvantage may be considered to be compensated by the advantage they enjoy of a most abundant grain country and a very moderate land assessment-under this view I am disposed to look to their situation in regard to the salt monopoly as being similar to that of the inhabitants of the low Country that is, what they pay additional for salt is made up by the cheapness of their grain.

As to the relief which the Wynadians should receive from the hardships of the Tobacco monopoly I have to recommend that the monopoly in Wynad be committed to a land tax on the Tobacco which is grown in the country and which is the only sort the Paniars consumed. The cultivation to be only allowed under licences as prescribed by the Regulations, and to be limited to what

may bonafide be required for the consumption of the Paniars, a restriction of this kind is necessary with a view to prevent the Tobacco being smuggled below the Ghauts. The Monopoly as it affects foreign Tobacco viz: that which is not grow the country to continue as at present. The proposed assessment on the cultivation of the Wynad Tobacco may be regulated according to what the growers themselves may acknowledge to be reasonable in lieu of existing monopoly.

Before I dismiss this subject I deem it necessary to remark that the Tobacco Regulations has not been rigorously enforced in Wynad. The cultivation of Tobacco has been more or less secretly carried on throughout the District without much interruption from the Revenue servants. The Tobacco delivered at the different cutcherries has remained unsold which induces to believe that the growers have confined their deliveries to what they did not require for their own consumption.

26. HOW ENGLISH TOOK THE PRIDE OF PLACE IN ADMINISTRATION

When Indian languages are taking the place of English in the field of administration now, it will be interesting to note how at the time English was replacing Persian as the Official language. The East India Company was keen to incorporate popular administrative terms current in Indian languages also in evolving administrative terminology in English for India.

The copy of the following letter circulated to provincial Government by the East India Company is kept in our Regional Archives, Ernakulam but unfortunately the glossary mentioned therein is not available.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

The Chief Secretary for the time being at
Fort St. George.

Sir,

I am commanded by the Court of Directors of the East India Company to transmit herewith for the information of the Madras Government copy of a Despatch addressed to the Governor General of India in Council in the Public Department (No. 15) dated 31st August, 1842, relative to a Glossary of Indian Terms, a perusal of which will acquaint you with the Courts intentions on the subject.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most obedient humble servant;
(Sd.)
JAMES C. MELVILL.

East India House, London,
28th September, 1842.

1. Our attention has been drawn to the importance of forming a Glossary of words in current use in the various parts of India relating to our own or the native administration of Public business in every branch whether political, judicial, revenue or military. The want of such a glossary adapted for popular use but more comprehensive then any now existing has frequently been found a source of inconvenience, and a collection, the usual of much labour and investigation having been submitted to use we are desirous to render the work of which it is intended to form the basis as complete as possible.

2. Being aware that this cannot be effected without the co-operation of our officers locally employed in all parts of India we shall forward by the next Mail for the use of each of our Residencies and for agro 300 copies of a portion of the work containing the letter A, printed in a form calculated to receive such suggestions as may be offered by those who takes an interest in the subject. We desire that you immediately circulate these copies with an intimation of our views and instructions for their return to you with the least practicable delay at the end of six months from the date of their being put in circulation, you will retransmit to us such of them as may have been returned with suggestion worthy of consideration. It is very desirable that each word should appear not only in English but in the original character whether belonging to the Persian, Hindi, Guzzeratti or any other tongue and the attention of these to whom copies are transmitted for suggestions should be drawn to this point. The final arrangement of the work will be committed to H.H. Wilson Esqr. Boden Professor of Sanscrit in the University of Oxford.

3. We shall forward the remaining portions of the alphabet at intervals, for the purpose of being circulated among our servants in like manner with the letter a now transmitted.

(Sd.)

ROBERT CLERK

Acting Chief Secretary

To

The Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

(Sd.)

W. CULLEN,

Resident.

27. SLAVES-A SOURCE OF REVENUE

It may be surprising to note that slaves also formed a source of income for the Sirkar nearly a century and a quarter ago. The rate of hire of a Sirkar slave varied from half a 'parrah' to six parrahs of paddy according to the physical ability of the slave.

No. 359/1849.

To

Major General W. Cullen,
British Resident etc.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1226 of the 17th instant and to furnish you with the information therein called for.

2. According to the Sirkar account of 1023 M. E. there are 6760 full-grown Sirkar slaves, male and female, and 1226 children making together 7986 souls. The amount of revenue derived from the full-grown slaves in the year quoted was rupees 3673-5-2.

3. Besides the slaves above alluded to, there are 573 full-grown slaves, male and female, and 141 children MAKING together 1014 souls, the property of Sirkar pagodas, from the full-grown portion of whom a revenue is also derived by the Sirkar amounting in the year above quoted Rs. 368-9-5.

4. The total therefore of slaves connected with the Sirkar according to the account in question was in 1023, 9,000 and the amount of revenue derived from their labour rupees 4041-14-7.

5. The rate of hire in all parts of the country, except Chittur and Nenmara is regulated by the age, physical power etc., of the slave. It varies according to these circumstances from 5 edangalies or half a parrah to 6 parrahs of paddy per annum per each individual. In Chittur and Nenmara the hire of a pair of slaves (a man and his wife) was formerly 50 parrahs of paddy per annum but in the 1006 M. E. it was reduced to 20 parrahs of paddy which is the present rate.

I have to honour to be, etc.,

(Sd.)

SANKARA W ARRIER,

Diwan.

Huzur Cutcherry, etc.,

24th August 1849.

28. THE NATIVES AND THEIR GRIEVANCES

It was not unusual for the citizens of the erstwhile States of Travancore and Cochin to represent to the British Resident or the Governor for the redressal of their grevances of various nature, such as for representation in Government service, using public roads, etc. The two documents pertaining to the years 1852 and 1884 A. D. published below as also the remarks of the Government throw light on this event.

No. 4/1852.

To

Major General W. Cullen,
British Resident etc.

Sir,

In returning petition No. 255 which accompanied your Memo dated the 12th March last, I have the honour to observe that the natural inference to be drawn from it viz., that Christians and Muhamedans are not eligible for employment under the Sirkar is quite erroenous. Individuals of both those persuations are holding employment under that Sirkar and there never be any objection to any one on the score of religion provided he was otherwise fit for employment. Petitioners statement that low caste persons are not allowed to approach hear the Tahsildar's Cutchery to make known their grievances is also quite unfounded.

I have the honour to be etc.,
(Sd.)
SHUNGARA WARRIER,
Diwan.

Huzur Cutcherry etc.,
3rd January 1852.

No. 1439.

Huzur Cutcherry and C.
28th October 1884.

To

J. C. Hannyngton Esquire,
British Resident.

Sir,

In returning herewith the petition presented ostensably by the Theya population of Trichur to His Excellency the Governor of Madras received with your endorsement of the 13th instant, I have the honour to state that the grievances complained of by the petitioners are more of a sentimental character than real.

The question of leaving open the public offices, high ways school and c., to all classes of His Highness' subjects without distinction of caste and creed, engaged the attention of the Government so far back as 1871, and as promised in my predecessor's letter No. 60 dated the 21st January 1871, the Heads or all departments of the State have been enjoined to give and have been giving the free acces to Thiyar as and Cherumars also.

There may be a few rare exception to the rule owing to the close proximity of certain roads and public offices to the sacred and religious institutions of the higher castes and care shall be taken to remove these impediments at the earliest possible opportunity.

In conclusion I may observe that the petition appears to have been got up by certain stray members of the Theya Caste and scarcely represent the wants and wishes of the caste in general.

I have the honour to be and c.,

(Sd.)
T. GOVINDA MENON,
Diwan.

29. EFFECTS OF CONVERSION

Conversion from one religion to another is at present a matter of one's conscience and does not affect one's rights of inheritance. But there was a time when Hindus on conversion to Christianity or Mohammedanism had to forfeit family properties.

No. 238/1853

To

Lieutenant General W. Cullen,
British Resident etc.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1053 of yesterday's date and to furnish you with replies to the queries therein contained.

Questions	Answers
1. Does a convert to Christianity from the Hindoo religion, an Izhuvan for instance, continue to inherit the family property or not? What are the laws on the subject?	Hindoo of all castes on conversion to Christianity forfeit all claim to family property. They are looked upon as dead.
2. Does a convert to Christianity as above and having children born previously to conversion retain his guardianship over such children till of age?	A convert to Christianity by the law and usage of the country ceases from the moment of conversion to have any control whatever over such children.

3. What are the laws and usages in regard to Mussalman converts as above?	The laws and usages in regard to Mussalman and christian converts are the same.
4. Can you furnish with any recent instances in illustration of the above point?	Yes. In the Trichur District a few years ago a Nambury Brahmin, the head of his family became a convert to Protestantism and at once forfeited all claim to his family property and control over his children.

I have honour to be etc.,

Huzur Cutcherry etc.,
13th May 1853.

(Sd.)
SHUNGARA WARRIER
Diwan.

30. OBSERVATORY CONSTRUCTION OF AT AUGUSTEER MULLAY

Travancore deserves special attention of students of history for its welfare measures especially in the field of Science and scientific investigations. The establishment of an observatory at Trivandrum even in the beginning of the 19th Century forms part of that enthusiasm. In addition to it the Government gave sanction too build up 'magnetic observatory' at "Augusteer Mullay". The letters cited here deal with its construction under the supervision of A.L. Brown, Director of Trivandrum Observatory. It is interesting to note that I.S.R.O. unit has been established at Mahendragiri Peak in South Travancore for scientific observations.

Observatory,
20th April 1854.

To

Lieut. General W. Cullen

Sir,

I beg to state with reference to the Observatory sanctioned by the Sircar to be built on Augusteer Mullay, that I have been occupied as you are aware with the cutting and sawing of timber and with the necessary carpentry work at Potheamullay the nearest point to Augusteer Peak where timber sufficiently good can be obtained. The Observatory will be made wholly of wood on account of the facilities of obtaining that material and the necessity for economy- But in order that it may be completed with economy it would be desirable to have all the aid the Sircar can give on such occasions in procuring workmen, and in obtaining the necessary supplies for them at such distances from Bazaars.

The help required will generally be little more than the countenance of the Sircar Officers and true statements by them of the wages usually received/

bona fide by the workmen.

I should desire also when the carpentry is completed the aid of some elephants in the transport of the materials towards the summit of the Augusteer Mullay.

I have the honour to be and

(Sd.)

JOHN ALLEN BROWN,

Director of the Trivandrum Observatory.

(Sd)

Resident.

To

The Diwan of Travancore

Sir,

I have the honour to forward to you copy of a letter of the 20th instant from the Director of the Observatory, requesting that reasonable aid may be afforded by the District Authorities in the Areenaad proverty, and by the Neddoovengaad Tahsildar to his servants and people who are now employed in those localities, preparing materials for the proposed Magnetic Observatory on Augusteer Mullay. I believe Mr. Brown will require very little, aid as his people pay readily, and have latterly found, but little difficulty, but it is desirable that the local officers should be told, that he is therewith the concurrence of His Highness, so as to prevent their at any time availing assistance which they are very apt to do.

I beg also to recommend compliance with the request for books conveyed in Mr. Brown's letter No. 12 of the 20' instant.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.)

Resident.

31. PRINTING PRESS-ITS INTRODUCTION IN COCHIN

Printing Presses, as an indispensible necessity of modern life, now-a-days find a place in every nook and corner of our country. But the position more than a century ago was totally different. In the year 1857 A.D. there were no printing presses in the Cochin territory. It is interesting to note that a non-Keralite by name Devaji Bheemji was the pioneer in this field in Kerala.

No. 545/1857

To

Lieutenant General W. Cullen,
British Resident etc.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1739 of the 19th instant forwarding copy of a communication No. 1252 of the 7th instant from the Government of India and in reply beg to State that there are no printing presses within the Cochin Territory.

I have the honour to be etc.,

(Sd.)

VENKITA ROW,

Diwan.

Huzur Cutcherry, etc.,

30th September, 1857

No. 113/1858.

To

Lieutenant General W. Cullen,
British Resident etc.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that one Devajee Bheemjee of Cochin has applied to me for permission to establish a lithographic press in Cochin and my younger son, Subba Row, has also furnished himself with a typographic press in Nagari (Bolopoud Characters) intended for the purpose of printing out books of native and Sanskrit Languages copies of every issues in Press will be furnished to the Sirkar to be preserved in the Recordes.

I have the honour to be etc.,

(Sd.)

VENKITA ROW,
Diwan.

Huzur Cutcherry, Cochin,
23rd February, 1858.

32. SETTLEMENT OF KONKANIS IN COCHIN

The Saraswath Brahmins, familiarly known as 'Konkanis' form one of the prominent minority communities in Kerala. Here is a record prepared in 1858 A.D. throwing light on the early history of konkani community in Cochin.

To

Lieut. General W. Cullen,
British Resident etc.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.139 of the 23rd and of the enclosed copy of an order from the Government under date the 26th September 1857, and to furnish you with the information therein called for:-

1 The number of Conkanies residing at or within a radius of 5 miles of the Port of Cochin is 4,040.

2. The number in the adjoining districts is 4730.

3. The Conkanies are chiefly petty shop keepers, some are engaged in the mercantile pursuits on a large scale-others are cultivators of land, and a few are brought up for the priesthood.

4. The worship and veneration offered to the Bimboms in question are not generally shared in, by the indigenous Hindoos of Cochin and Travancore. Free will offerings are sometimes brought to the shrine-donations are occasionally given by His Highness the Rajah.

5. The traditions that exist regarding the first immigration of the Conkanies into Cochin State, that owing to certain religious disputes, they were obliged to leave their native country Conkan, their idols in 1294 AD. and travelling southward, they came to the territory of the Highness the Rajah of Cochin. Having obtained grants of land and assured of promises of protection from His Highness they settled in Cochin and formed themselves into a community they named the "Conkanasta Mahajanam".

The Bimboms question are declared to be the very images, which the Immigrants brought with them and which were three in number forming a set called "Moola Wigrahoms" and was intended to be kept stationary in the Pagoda-the principal or centre image of this set bears the name of Vencatacholla Puthy "or Thiroomala Devan", its two companions are Sree Davee & Bhoo Davee;--There was another set named "Oolswa Wigrahoms" always carried about in procession on festive occasions which the Conkanies are supposed to have purchased after their arrival here. There were many other minor idols which the Conkany Community either purchased or received as gifts and which were distributed among the Grammums or settlements they in process of time established in the adjoining districts, such as Vypeen, Ernacollum and Tripoontorah etc., in the Cochin Territory and Toroor, Alleppey etc. in Travancore-the above Grammums sixteen in number were in all religious matters under the immediate control of the "Conkanasta Mahjanum"-They thus continued to prosper till the year 1792 A.D. when by the inconstancy of Fortune they incurred the displeasure of the Rajah who then reigned and were obliged to remove themselves and their idols to their little settlement at Alleppey, where in a morner of their pagoda the Bimboms by in a boy, totally neglected in the beginning but destined as they were to retun to Cochin before long according to the pragnostications of some of their devout priests. In the year 1853 they were brought back by stealth to their own pagoda-but great and inexpressible was the grief of the whole community when it was found, that in obedience to the orders of a Paramount Power they were immediately afterwards to be deprived of what they were convinced was their own by all rights.

6. The Conkanies one and all most solemnly declare that all the immages have been restored to Alleppey.

I have the honour to be etc.,

H.Con. Circuit, Trichoor,
6th March 1858.

(Sd.)
VENKATA. ROW,
Diwan.

33. DISCOURTESY OF A DIWAN

Here is a letter from the Raja of Cochin, dated 18 August 1858 addressed to the British Resident General Cullen complaining about the discourteous behaviour of his Diwan Venkita Rao on the occasion of the State Ceremony "Attachamayam", and soliciting permission for the removal of the Diwan from office.

No. 19 of 1858

To

Lt. General W. Cullen,

British Resident for Travancore and Cochin,

Courtallum.

Sir,

With feelings of deep and painful regret I have to bring to your notice a gross and deliberate insult offered to me by the Diwan, and which has been the more humiliating to me from its having occurred in the presence of a vast multitude of spectators.

The 13th instant was the occasion of one of the principal State ceremonies called "Attachamayam" which has always been celebrated with great pomp and is one of those time honoured festivals intimately associated with the dignity and honour of this Court.

It is usual for the chief officers of State to wait upon me some hours previous to the ceremony to assist at its celebration and after the procession, presents are distributed by me according to the rank and position of the parties.

On the present occasion the Diwan who should have been the first to present himself did not arrive until all other had assembled, the needful

preparations completed, and the procession was actually commencing-an act of indifference and disrespect which was never before evinced by any Minister.

According to custom the Sword of State is borne by the Diwan at the procession, and I beg to observe that the duty incumbent on the Diwan on the above occasion agreeably to prescriptive usage was conformed to by all former Diwans and by the present Diwan also last year, so that no excuse can be admitted on the score of ignorance of his obligations.

After the procession, I honoured him with the usual present to gratify you and I was paided to find that he peremptorily quitted the place immediately afterwards, without the courtesy of taking my leave.

The whole of the Diwan's conduct on this occasion, marked as it has been throughout by disrespect and insolence, preculdes any other idea but that of gross and deliberate insult to me and I sincerely regret that the public manner in which it was offered, has tended to lower and degrade me in the eyes of my subjects.

The present aggravation of his disrespectful conduct, in the face of the decided opinion and the orders of the Madras Government is past all forbearance. I cannot any longer tolerate a Diwan, who far from consulting my dignity and self-respect as duly required, meets me with insult and defiance on the occasion of an important State ceremony regardless of the presence of my officers and people, I wait your reply to this letter to issue a Theetturam removing Venkita Rao from office.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Yours most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

RAVI VARMA,

Raja of Cochin.

Trippunithura,

18th August, 1858.

34. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RAJA'S GIRLS SCHOOL AT TRIVANDRUM

C. No. 2297.

Trivandrum,
29th October, 1859.

My Dear Sir,

Adverting to your demi-official letter of the 26th instant, regarding the Girl's School, to which His Highness the Raja has no liberally accorded his patronage. I have now the pleasure to tell you that I have taken the necessary measures for opening the Establishment at an early date.

I propose that Mrs, D'Veigas should be the School mistress on a salary of Rupees 40 per mensem. The rent of the house will be seven Rupees and the balance of three Rupees will be carried to the general school fund for contingent purposes, such as prizes for the scholars, and so on. The school house situate in the Cantonment, which I have selected for the purpose, will be a considered under the charge of the Sirkar, and I should therefore trust that the Sirkar will agree to the annual thatching of the Bunglow as the rent is extremely small. I would also suggest that a sweeper be allowed keep the building and compound in decent order.

I enclose a copy of the regulation, which I have drawn up for the guidance of the school mistress and pupils.

This Sirkar will of course be at liberty to propose such measures it may deem fit, with reference to the future well-being of the institution, but to ensure its more. Immediate efficiency, I have requested Mrs, Faunce and Mrs. Waring to exercise such supervision over the institution as they may consider necessary, and this they have kindly consented to do. There will of course be no necessity for Mr. Mead's interference whatever in the school, which will be more appropriately left to the superintendence of the ladies above mentioned.

I trust you will permit some elementary books to be supplied by Mr. Lapenais, who, I believe can spare a few from His Highness' Free School.

To

The Diwan of Travancore.

Yours etc.,
(Sd)

C. No. 2297.

REGULATIONS FOR THE RAJA'S GIRLS' SCHOOL, TRIVANDRUM

I. School hours from 9 a.m. to 4 p. m. an interval from 1 to 2 being allowed for refreshment.

II. Leave of absence will be granted on all proper occasions, but such indulgence will be temporarily withheld whenever the conduct of the pupils renders them undeserving of it.

III. Any pupil conducting herself in a noisy or unbecoming manner during school hours will be punished according to the discretion of the school Mistress.

IV. For each child:-

Children of persons in service or otherwise with a salary of

	Rs.	As.	p.
Rs. 25 and less than 50 to pay monthly	..	4	..
Rs. 50 „ 1 00 „	..	8	..
Rs. 100 „ 150 „	1	..	..
Rs. 150 and upwards	1	8	..

V Children of persons without income or with salary less than 25 Rs. free, but voluntary payment offered by European or others for children of the latter description, whom they may wish to send to the school, will be thankfully received in aid of the institution.

VI No girls above 15 years of age to be retained in the school.

VII Payments to be made in advance and to be considered due on the first of each month. No arrears allowed. A month's notice to be given by parents or guardians, before the removal of a pupil.

VIII Examinations and distributions of prizes to take place half year June and December.

IX The school will be available for Europeans, East Indians and Na without distinction on creed or caste.

X The School Mistress will receive a salary of 40 Rupees a month a free house.

XI The number of scholars will be limited at present to forty. All applications for the admittance of pupils to be made either to major Drury, Mrs Faunce or Mrs. Warning.

XII A school book to be kept in which the names of the pupils, their parents or guardians the school fees & etc., are to be duly entered, the account, with balance in hand to be submitted monthly either Mrs. Faunce of Mrs. Waring.

Holidays allowed:

Her Majesty's birth-day.

His Highness the Raja's birth-day.

The usual Easter holidays.

Saturday to be half holiday from one O'Clock p. m.

Vacation for ten days at the end of June and from the 25" of December to the 2" January each year.

Instruction

The course of instruction will comprise English Grammar, Writing and spelling, Arithematic, Geography, Plain and fancy Needle work and religious instruction.

35. COIN-INTRODUCTION OF FANAM

The following two letters between the Resident and the Diwan throw light on the issue of a new Silver coin similar to the value of four Chakrams in Travancore more than one hundred years ago. A copy of the letter for the approval of the new Silver coin and the reply are reproduced below.

Huzur Cutcherry,

No. 1569 Trivandrum,

3rd October, 1860.

To

F. N. Maltby Esq.,

British Resident of Travancore.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that it is the intention of the Sir car to issue a new coin to the value of 4 Chuckrams or one gully fanam. The silver of this new coin will be of the same purity as of the Chuckram and will weigh just 4 chuckrams. Such a coin will I think be a great convenience to the people.

2. I trust you will approve of this measure.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

T. MADHAVA RAO,

Diwan.

No. 1671 Resident's Office,

Trivandrum,

5th October, 1860.

To

The Diwan of Travancore.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1569 of the 3rd instant and to intimate to you my approval of the proposed issue by the Sircar of a new silver coin of the value of 4 Chuckrams.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

Resident.

36. A MEMORANDUM ON CHURCH DISPUTES

Reproduced below is an interesting Memorandum issued by the British Resident in the year 1861 A.D. on the subject of the "contested jurisdiction of the Bishop of Verapoly and of the newly arrived Metran Mar Thomas" based on 'the representa-tions received from the Priests and others of many Romo-Syrian churches.

Resident's Office, on Circuit,
Cottayam, 3lst December, 1861

MEMORANDUM

The Resident has received a large number of petitions and addresses from the Catanars and others of many Romo-Syrian Churches on the subject of the contested jurisdiction of the Biship of Verapoly and of the newly arrived Metran Mar Thomas .

The Resident has also received copies of orders passed by the Diwan of Cochin, and by the Deputy Peishcar T. Shangunny Menon.
Objections have been offered by many of the Petitioners to these orders as a violation of the neutrality required to be observed by the orders of Government.

The Resident proceeds to dispose of all these representations by the following remarks.

1st. He observes that the Petitioners have taken a wrong course in coming to the British Resident. The Disputes must be settled either amicably or by the tribunals of the country. The Resident would go out of his proper line of duty if he attempted to adjudicate between the contesting parties, or to determine when the majority in favour of one or other party war at the transfer of a Church. The Law Court is the place where this must be settled.

2nd. The duty of the Police is limited to preventing breaches of the peace. If a portion of the Church Community considers that the Church is their property and if they are opposed by another party or by an order of the police, their course is plain. It is, to apply to the Civil Court proving their right and obtaining a legal injunction from the Court.

3rd. The Resident has perused the orders of the Diwan of Cochin and of

the Deputy Peishcar of Travancore. The object of both is to confirm present possession and to throw the responsibility on the innovators. This, as a general rule, is the right course for the Police to pursue, when it becomes necessary for them to interfere at all. The Resident has every reason to believe that those officers have passed the orders they considered necessary for preserving the peace. He cannot take upon himself the responsibility of interfering with them and he has pointed out the proper course for the petitioners to pursue.

4th. At the same time the Resident considers that the order of the Deputy Peishcar goes too far in laying down the rule that perfect unanimity among the congregation is necessary to Justify them in placing themselves under a new Metran. No such general rule can be Church and many other points, Unless a breach of the peace is imminent, the police need give no orders.

One general rule may be laid down that the person innovating on the established state of things, is responsible if he goes where he is likely to cause a breache of the peace. He should rather resort to the Civil Court.

5th. The Resident is desirous to give to the congregations every assistance in settling their unhappy disputes amicably. The Division Peishcars and Tahsildars should use their best endeavours to bring about an amicable settlement

Where resort is had to the Civil Courts, the Resident will recommend to His Highness the Rajah that the Courts be instructed to make early investigation, and also to endeavour to dispose of the disputes by arbitration.

6th. All parties should remember that they have perfect liberty of con science and can leave a Church to which they no longer desire to belong and held worship in such place and under such jurisdiction as the seceding body may choose.

(Sd.)
Resident.

To

The Diwan of Cochin.

37. RECOGNITION OF THE NEW FANAM AS A LEGAL COIN

It is a fact that the new generation may not be aware of the introduction of fanam as a new coin in Travancore more than a century ago. The following letter to the Diwan of Travancore from the Resident's office stating the recognition of the new fanam as a legal coin brings to light the very act the copy of the letter reads as:

No. 1230

Resident's Office,
Trevandrum,
8th August, 1864.

To

The Diwan of Travancore.

Sir

In reply to your letter No. 2265 of the 4th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the necessary instructions have been given to the Residency Travancore in regard to recognizing the new fanam as a legal coin.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
Offig. Resident

38. FIRST TELEGRAPH OFFICE IN TRAVANCORE

The following letters would bring to light facts about the opening of the "Telegraph Office in Travancore".

No. 1121

From

Lieutenant Col. C. Douglas,
Director General of Telegraph's in India.

To

E. C. Bailey Esq.
Secretary to Government of India,
Calcutta, 10th August 1864.

Sir,

I forward the Madras Government's No. 92 of the 27th January last to my address covering letter No.2 of the 5th Idem from the Resident of Travancore and Cochin bringing to notice the wishes of the Travancore Government that a Telegraph Office should be opened either at Kottar or Nagercoil.

2. As the line now under construction connecting, Tutucorin with Cochin will pass through the town of Nagercoil the expense of opening an office at that place will be limited to the cost of the office rent and establishment which supposing the office to be opened for limited day service only would be about Rs. 183 monthly and it would be necessary that the collections should reach one half of this amount of rupees 92 in order that the office might be self supporting.

3. It would appear that the two places named Nagercoil and Kottar are

close together. But as there is a Post Office at the former only it may be assumed to be the more important place and the proper site for Telegraph office.

4. An estimate of the probably receipts of an office as Nagercoil based upon the number of letters sent from and received at that station shows a probable monthly income of rupees 56 only. The proposed office does not therefore hold out any immediate prospect of being self supporting and the only terms on which I would recommend its establishment would be on a guarantee from the Travancore Government to pay to the Government of India such sum monthly as may be necessary to meet the difference between the actual receipts from messages and the working expenses of the office a difference which the estimate of collections already given leads one to set down at Rs. 36.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
(Sd.)
C. DOUGLAS,
Lieut. Col.,
Director General of Tels. in India.

No. 2331

From

E.C. Bayley Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of India.

To

Lieut. Col. C. Douglas,
Director General of Telegraphs in India,
Dated Simla the 26th August, 1864.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1121 dated the 10th instant and in reply to inform you that the Governor General in Council sanctions the establishment of a Telegraph office at Kottar or Nagercoil as

proposed on a guarantee from the Travancore Government to pay to the Government of India monthly, whatever may be the difference between the actual receipt from messages and the working expenses of the office, that is a guarantee generally not definitely restricted to 36 Rs. a month.

I have & c.,
(Sd.)
E.C. BAYLEY,
Secretary' to the Government of India.

J. T. BLISSETT,
Director of Teleg., Southern Diuision.
(Sd.)
Offg: Resident

No. 985
From

J. T. Blissett Esq.,
Director of Telegraphs Southern Dn.,

To

The Resident of Travancore and Cochin,
Dated, Bangalore the 12th October, 1864.

Sir,

Copy of the accompanying correspondence having been forwarded to me, by the Director General of Telegraphs in India with a request that on opening a Telegraph office with a request that on spending a Telegraph at either Kottar or Nagercoil. I should obtain the necessary guarantee the Travancore Government as laid down by the Government of India in their letter No. 2331 dated 26th August 1864. I have the honour to solicit the same may be awarded and beg the decision of the Government in question be communicated relative to the site thereof in possessing which I respectfully solicit their attention to the 3rd para of the Director General's letter No. 1121 dated 10th August 1864.

I have

(Sd.)

J. T. BLISSETT,

Director of Tels., Southern Division.

No. 1664

Resident's Office,
Trevandrum,
21st October, 1864.

To

The Diwan of Travancore.

Sir,

With further reference to your letter No. 2775 dated 17th Ultimo, I have the honour to forward to your copy of a communication No. 985 of the 12th instant, from the Director of Telegraphs, S. Division, Bangalore and to request that you will inform me whether the Sirkar is prepared to give the guarantee laid down is a condition of opening a Telegraph Office at Nagerocil or Cottar, and if so, at which of this two places it is considered desirable to place the office.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Yours most Obedient Servant

(Sd.)

Off. Resident

39. BOND SERVICES

A letter from the Diwan of Cochin dated 30th May 1866 to the British Resident gives a detailed account of the "Uliyam Service" (Bond service) exacted from the various classes of people, a system that was prevalent in our state years ago.

Ernakulam in Cochin
30th May, 1866.

Dear Sir,

I have been unable to find out the writers of the petition to Government regarding the Oolium (Uliyam) service and the complaints therein made appear moreover to be unfounded. I have, therefore, sent a reply to the effect to your official Memorandum on the subject.

As requested at one of our late interviews at Bolghatty, I now proceed to give you an account of the Oolium service as it existed previous to recent arrangements and of the modifications made by those arrangements.

Sometime ago I called on the different Tahsildars to furnish me with the particulars of the service exacted from the inhabitants under the name Oolium service and also the classes of people who were subject to each description of service. The following is an abstract of the statement received from the Tahsildars.

Brahmins are required to cook large quantities of rice and curries at the different public feasts and also to serve the same to all who come to partake of them. They also hold umbrellas etc., at religious processions. These services are paid for.

Ampalavasis (who are in caste superior to other Sudras having duties to perform in Pagodas) assist at feasts and supply flowers etc. These services are paid for.

Nairs supply butter, milk, ghee and flowers, held torches etc., at procession, carry loads which cannot be touched by persons of a lower caste, sweep public buildings and clean and carry from place to place the cooking and other utensils needed at feasts. These services are paid for. Occasionally when His Highness is proceeding by water some have to attend at the shallow parts of the river to above the boat through them. With people of other castes they

have also to supply rice, provisions and firewood, make casual repairs to public roads and act as village watchmen.

Coodoomby Chetlies put up sheds, thatch public buildings, clean tanks and are also employed as boatmen and coolies. Their services are paid for. The work of putting up the extension sheds required on occasions of great ceremonies is now given to them on contract.

Pandarems, Cadupatters, Ezhuvans, Chaliens, Christians, Maahamedans etc. These have to supply rice, provisions, firewood and materials for sheds, thresh paddy and to do other cooly work. These services are paid for, but not fully. They have also to make occasional repairs of roads and to act as village watchmen and messengers and guards at Tannahs etc., for which they get no remuneration.

Valens and Arayans These are river and sea fishermen and are employed in pulling boats, landing salt, supplying fish to European Gentlemen and guarding boat houses, salt banks halls etc. Their services are paid for except in the case of guarding buildings for which they receive no remuneration. Arrangements have lately been made for landing the salt at the expense of the contractor and the Arayan's services are now fully paid for.

Koshavas supply earthenware for money, repair roads, act as village watchmen, do cooly work.

Parqyas Supply bamboo mats, baskets etc. which are paid for.

Kanakens bring down timber from the forests and sometimes their services are required for pulling boats. These services are paid for.

Shopkeepers and artisans are exempt from Oolium services whenever the services of the latter are required by the Sirkar they are then paid for.

It will thus be perceived that the services rendered by the inhabitants are of two kinds.

I. Manual labour and II the supply of provisions etc.

1. Manual labour may be divided into three classes (1) labour for the uses and requirements of the palace and other institutions (2) occasional repairs to public roads and assisting the Police in carrying messages and guarding prisoners and (3) watching their own villages.

Labour of the Palace and other public institutions have always been paid for to a certain extent. Sometimes the labourers are allowed only their food at the day and sometimes they get some payment for the work done. By the arrangements now made a labourer working for the Palace or for any Sirkar

Institution will be entitled to the same hire as he would obtain if he worked for a private individual. The labourer can scarcely expect more, but there is a spirit of resistance on the part of the inhabitant particularly on the part of the Christian community and as any combination on their part to refuse to do the work which they have hitherto performed will cause great inconvenience, it is considered inadvisable at present to make the supply of labour dependent entirely at the free will of the people.

With regard to the 2nd class of labour the inhabitants are bound to assist the Police to the best of their power. It is a duty which they naturally owe to the State and as each Tannah has a number of villages attached to it and each village has several persons capable of carrying messages and occasional guarding offenders, this duty falls lightly on the people and there seems to be no immediate necessity for paying for such labour. However as 1t has been alleged that in former days employed on such service get an anna or so per dien for the number of days they were actually on duty. I shall make further enquiries on the subject and should the allegation be true re-establish the practice. The Pnblic roads are made and repaired at the public expense, but during the rains a hole may be made in one place or a small portion of a causeway washed away in another. These slight repairs can be easily done by the inhabitants owning lands on either side of the road under the directions of the heads of villages and it is only such minor repairs that the inhabiten are expected to do gratis. I believe the practice exists or at least existed even in the British Territory and there seems to be no great necessity for doing away with it at present with regard to by roads, it is the duty of the people to keep them in repair.

Watching their own villages is a work for which the villager can expect no remuneration from the State. It is a duty which they owe to themselves and as almost all classes are liable for the duty, it does not press heavily on any particular class.

The 2nd class of Oolium service, viz., the supply of provisions etc., is really productive of evil not so much from the deficiency from the price paid and the value of the goods received as from the difficulty of ensuring the payment of the money to the persons giving the supplies and of preventing a larger quantity taken than is required or received. An example will make the evils of the system more apparent. The Sirkar wants 3,000 parahs of rice. An order is sent to three of the Tahsildars to supply, 1,000 parahs each. The Tahsildar subdivides the quantity among the proverthikars how Cochin, stand

in the place of Adhikaries in Malabar and each Proverthikar subdivides his quota amongst the Heads of the different villages. The Heads of villages give small advances to each ryot and require them to supply small quantities of rice supposed to amount in the aggregate to the quantity required by the Proverthikar and very often to more. Whatever may be the quantity received by the Heads of villages they sent to the Proverthikar only the quantity ordered by him. They appropriate the reminder to themselves and if they pay at all for the quantity so appropriated it is at the rate given by the Sirkar or at a lower rate. To ensure the whole quantity ordered by the Tahsildar reaching the place of destination, the Proverthikars not unfrequently require the Heads of Villages to supply more than what they themselves have been ordered to send and the difference is generally appropriated by the Proverthikars who, of course, pay for it only at the rate allowed by the Sirkar. Thus it not unfrequently happens that the ryots have to supply double the quantity actually required by the Sirkar and as the payment comes through the Tahsildar, Proverthikar and Heads of Villages, the latter have it in their power so it harass the ryots with delay etc., as to make them willing to take the money granted by the Sirkar or even a portion of it as payment in full for the much larger quantity of rice supplied by them and so with regard to other supplies. The price paid by the Sirkar is also somewhat below that ruling in the market. There are other evils attendant on such a state of things which it is unnecessary here to particularise.

The system was so oppressive that I have for some time past directed all supplies for the several ootupurahs and Pagodas to be procured in the markets. It was only on extraordinary occasions such as the great ceremonies consequent on a Rajah's death or a marriage in the Royal Family that the agency of Proverthikars and heads of villages is called into requisition. The great annual festival in the Pagoda at Irinjalakuday was also an exception. The feast lasts 10 days and nearly 400 parahs of rice with other provisions in proportion are consumed every day. On such occasions it is impossible to get all, the provisions required in the market; but even on such occasions part of the provisions has been obtained from merchants and it shall be my endeavour so to increase the proportion purchased in the market, as gradually to dispense with the agency of the underpaid village authorities and the unscrupulous Heads of villages. All supplies to the palace used to the be procured through their agency, but now as the rule is to procure them in the market and recouse to such agency is to be exceptional, things will improve.

There are some articles, such as butter, milk, ghee and so forth which

cannot be obtained in sufficiently large quantities in the market and which even if procurable would not, owing to the caste prejudices of the people, be considered fit for use. These must unavoidably be procured from high caste Hindus and through the village officials.

On occasion of the last festivals in the Irinjalakuday Pagoda and on that of His Highness' birthday which followed closely on the modifications in the Oolium service sanctioned by His Highness, there was no time to make other arrangements. The supplies were received as usual through the village authorities; but the prices paid were every nearly equal to those prevailing in the markets. Next year I hope to be able to employ private agency to a greater extent and to take steps for the more punctual payment of the price of provisions obtained through the Proverthikars and Heads of Villages.

The people do not know that the proposal to modify the system of Oolium service originated with me and give me no credit for the same. On the other hand, they attribute the changes already made to their petitions and are more assiduous than ever in writing petitions hoping by their clanour to obtain still further changes. Their assertions are not however always true and I don't think that at present we can do anything further than what I propose doing.

I remain etc.,

(Sd.)
T. SHANGUNNY MENON.

To

H. Newill, Esq.,
British Resident etc.

40. COINAGE OF COCHIN

The fact that the small State of Cochin too had her own coins termed as "Poothens" (Puttans) in earlier days is very little known. The record below throws light on this aspect.

No.550/1869

Huzur Cutcherry,
Ernakulam in Cochin,
27th August 1869.

To

G.A. Ballard Esq.
British Resident,
In Travancore and Cochin.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Memo No. 623 dated 20th instant forwarding copy of the Proceedings of the Madras Government Political Department dated 9th August 1869.

2. There is no permanently established Mint in the Cochin Territory, but coins are, struck when it is found necessary to do so,

3. The last coinage was minted in 1033 M. E. 1857-58 as you will perceive from the correspondence noted in the margin.

4. The coinage of Cochin consists of two Sirkar coins denominated "Single and Double Poothens".

5. The value of the Poothens, as compared with British money is as follows:

A single Poothen is equal to ten pies. A double Poothen is equal to one anna eigtht pies.

6. The process of manufacture is very simple, Bars of Silver are fused in crucibles made of sand and clay and are granulated. The granualted silver is

then weighed into quantities of the weight of single and double Poothen, and put into trays, made also of sand and clay with round holes which contain as much silver as is sufficient for the coins. These trays are then placed in a furnace to melt the silver, and small balls are formed and punched into Poothens by means of a hammer.

The punch or die is formed of steel and cut with the required figures on the surface; these figures being a Chang &c. on the one side and the figure of Vishnoo on the other.

7. The Artificers employed are Pandy Silver-Smiths.

8. The bullion for the last coinage was procured from Bombay in bars of sycee silver.

9. The general area of the currency of these coins is the whole of the Cochin Territory and British Cochin and some of the Northern Districts of Travancore.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

T. SHANGOONY MENON,

(Diwan)

41. BRAHMINS AND CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Brahmins were exempted from capital punishment. The two letters reproduced below throw light on this aspect.

No. 831

Huzur Cutcherry, &c.,
9th November 1871.

To

G.A. Ballard Esquire,
British Resident, & C.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. 626 of the 31st ultimo I have the honour to inform you that in bringing to the notice of His Highness the Raja the memo on referred case No.5 of 1046 which accompanied it.

2. In this memo you express you disapproval of the sentence passed by the Appeal Court, the Judge having in consequent of the 1st Prisoner being a Brahmin, exempted him and his accomplices the 2nd and 3rd Prisoners from the extreme penalty of the law and sentenced them to life imprisonment, and it is recommended that the case be remanded to the Appeal Court with instructions to the effect that in cases where murder is brought home to any of His Highness's subjects the caste of the convicted man, be it what it ma, shall be no bar to sentence of death being passed on him.

3. I am directed to by His Highness the Raja to inform you in reply that according to the Hindu Shastras the taking away of the life of a Brahmin is an unparalleled sin, and hence whatever may be the crime committed by a Brahmin, he has never hitherto been subjected to capital punishment.

4. Brahmins are not the only persons who are exempted from capital punishment. No female of any caste can be sentenced to death be her crime what it may.

5. Neither is it in this country alone that such a law prevails. The law is in force in Travancore and if His Highness is not mistaken, also in the other Hindu States.

6. His Highness is aware that Europeans do not in such cases take into account the caste or sex of the persons committing the offences-but His Highness cannot, without doing great violence to his own feelings and to these of the majority of his subjects, sanction the execution of a sentence of death on a Brahmin or on a female; and as a sentence of life imprisonment is little less lenient than one of death His Highness trusts that you will not press any alternation in the existing law of the country in this respect.

I have the honour to be & c.,

(Sd.)

T. SANKUNNI MENON,

Diwan.

No. 875.

Huzur Cutcherry & C.,
24th November 1871.

To

G A. Ballard Esquire,
British Resident & C.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 658 of the 14th instant and to inform you that the contents thereof were duly communicated to His Highness the Raja.

2. I am directed by His Highness to inform you in reply that according to the Shastras, the Commission of murder or any other heinous crime does not make a Brahmin liable to capital punishment although it may render him unfit to associate with person of his own caste. The slaying of Brahmin is expressly

prohibited by these Shastras which declare that the putting to death of a Brahmin, whatever may be his crime, is an unparallel sin. I have noted in the margin a passage from the Institute of Manu bearing on the subject.

"380. Never shall the king slay Brahmin, though convicted of all possible crimes let him banish the offender from his realm but with all his property secured and his body unhurt.

"381. No greater crime is known on earth then slaying a Brahmin, and the King, therefore, must not even for in his mind an idea of killing a priest."

3. If the Laws of this country required the Criminal Courts to be guided strictly by the Indian Penal Code and if according to this Code death were the punishment invariably to be awarded for murder, it follows as a matter of course that Brahmins, females and all other persons committing Murder should be sentenced to death. If no exemption can be allowed in case of Brahmin it is difficult to perceive how any can be accorded in favour of females and hence the allusion made to females in my former letter.

4. His Highness however believed that the Courts are not bound to be guided implicitly by the Indian Penal Code and that death is not the only punishment awardable for murder by the said Code.

5. By section 24 Regulation 1 of 1043 it is enacted that in Criminal cases "the punishment shall be regulated as nearly as may be according to the penalty prescribed by the Indian Penal Code." The punishment is not required to be regulated strictly by the penalty prescribed in that code.

6. Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code runs thus "who ever commits murder shall be punished with death, or transportation for life, and shall also be liable to fine". Thus according to the Indian Penal Code death or transportation for life is the punishment for murder. As we have no Penal Settlement to which our Prisoners can be transported, persons liable to transportation for life are sentenced to imprisonment for life.

7. It will be perceived from what has already been stated that in cases of murder the Regulations which have lately been passed leave it optional with the Courts to pass a sentence of death or one of imprisonment for life, and that on the other hand the ancient Sastras make it imperative that Brahmins should be exempted from the extreme penalty of the Law. The practice which

has been in force in this country from time immemorial is consonant to both the Regulations and the Shastras and repugnant to neither.

8. If the exemption from capital punishment has led to an increase in the number of murders committed by Brahmins there would be some ground for authorising a deviation from this practice. But it has had no such effect. The number of cases in which Brahmins have been convicted of murder has been very few showing plainly that sentence of life imprisonment has a sufficiently deterring effect, as far as persons of this caste at least, are concerned.

9. Under these circumstances His Highness the Raja regrets that he cannot agree with you in considering it necessary to remand the case in view to the Appeal Court or to authorise the passing of a sentence of death on Brahmins convicted of murder.

I have the honour to be & c.,

(Sd.)

T. SANKUNNI MENON,

Diwan

42. AGREEMENT FOR THE LEASE OF THE TANGACHERRY FARM

A copy of the agreement for the lease of the Tangacherry Farm signed by the Diwan. This record taken from Regional Archives, Calicut.

No. 740 Resident's Office,
Trivandrum, 21st November 1873.

From

G.A. Bellard Esq.,
Resident- in- Travancore & Cochin.

To

A Macgregor, Esq.,
Collector of Malabar.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith duly signed by the Diwan of Travancore, one of the copies of the agreement for the lease of the Tangacherry farm which accompanied your letter No. 2524 of the 17th instant.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant,

(Sd.)
Resident.

This agreement made this fourteenth day of October in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three for and on behalf of the Government of Fort Saint George on one part and on behalf of the Travancore Sirkar on the other part as follows:

2. A Macgregor, Collector of Malabar on behalf of the Government of Fort Saint George as aforesaid and A. Seshaieh Sastri on the other part of the Travancore Sirkar do hereby convenant and agree to let, rent or lease all that

part of the District of South Malabar commonly known by the name of Chengacherry for the term of one year commencing from the 13th July 1874 and ending on the 12th July, 1875 to the Travancore Sirkar for the sum of Rupees Two thousand four hundred and forty-seven per annum payable into the Collectors Treasury at Cochin in one payment of Kist at the end of the Fasli on the 30th June 1875 in coins current at Cohin.

3. In consideration whereof, all rents, customs, of Incomes, profits and produce accruing from the said rented premises of all denominations whatsoever are hereby declared to become the sole property of the Travancore Sirkar during the full and entire period of one year as aforesaid.

4. It is also further declared that the inhabitants residing within the limits of the said village of Chengacherry of all castes and description whatsoever shall continue to be under the protection of British Government in all cases of a civil or police nature.

5. It is clearly to be understood that with the exception of the introduction of the monopoly of the sale of tobacco and spirit the Travancore Sirkar or its agents are prohibited from imposing new taxes levying unusual duties or arbitrary exactions of any kind on the inhabitants of Chengacherry and that an attempt to do so by the Travancore Sirkar will involve forfeiture of all claim to a continuance of the Farm.

6. The Police establishment of Chengacherry [sic] are to afford every aid and support to the servants of the farm in the detection of frauds or attempts to introduce into Chengacherry any of the articles under Government monopoly.

7. The Police will give all aid in securing peaceable execution of Revenue processes as far as required and authorised by law so to do.

8. In witness whereof we have here unto set our hands and seals the day and year before written.

(Sd.)

Collector.

43. A MURDER CASE

While classifying the very old papers one letter caught our attention. It is a letter to the Diwan of Cochin for the approval of the death sentence passed by the Court on account of a murder case. The copy of the letter dated 18-3-1874 is reproduced below.

No. 186

Resident's Office,
On Circuit, Peermade,
18th March 1874.

To

The Diwan of Cochin,

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the memo of the Judge of the Appeal Court dated the 12th instant forwarding for approval copy of the sentence passed by that, Court in Referred Trial No.8 of 1048.

2. Of the fact of the murder there can be no doubt whatever. The deceased seems to have been an unfaithful wife. Her husband, the murderer, was aware of and smarted under his shame. They continued, however, to cohabit apparently one day the wife when working in fields expressed her intention of going to her own family house. The husband objected knowing or believing at least that her purpose was to renew criminal intercourse with her paramour. The husband objected to his wife's going high words passed. The wife went from the field to the husband's house to prepare food. The husband immediately followed-closed the door-and then and there brutally murdered the woman by nearly serving her head from her body. In a second deposition the husband states that words passed in the house as well as in the field -that the woman insisted that she would go to her family house if she pleased without his permission and that then he murdered her.

3. In these circumstances unless the Judges are prepared to sanction the principle that when a husband believes his wife unfaithful and murders her in consequences, the murder is not punishable with death I do not understand their stopping short of passing the extreme sentence of the Law in this case.

Here the husband doubtlessly was convinced of his wife's offence. But they had been living together for some time apparently since any commission of the offence. The husband apprehended renewal of criminal intercourse. He took the summary course of brutally murdering his wife to prevent it. As long as death is the punishment of murder it seems to me sentence of death should at least have been recorded here. I cannot therefore express approval of the Courts sentence-and have felt it right to record these remarks

4. But whilst unable altogether to approve of the sentence. I would in the circumstances an as the sentence does not err on the side of severity, recommend His Highness the Rajah to confirm it.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Sd)

G. A. BALLARD

Resident

44. CHURCH AT TRIVANDRUM-REQUEST OF THE PATRIARCH OF ANTIOCH

This is a letter from Patriarch of Antioch to the Maharaja of Travancore for early sanction for building a church in Trivandrum. This interesting document highlights the relations between the Travancore Government and the Patriarch of Antioch in the Second half of the 19th Century. It also reveals the attitude of the Government on the question of granting permission to build places of worship.

Ignatius, by the Grace of God, Peter III Patriarch of Antioch and all the Syrian Churches in the East.

To

His Highness Rama Varmah, by the Grace of God, King's Grand Commander of the Star of India, Maha Rajah of Travancore.

Sends Greeting

May God grant Your Highness Long Life-Amen.

We have the honour to remind Highness of our letters of the 27th September 1875, requesting Your Highness to permit our Christians to build a Church in the garden called Nediavilagom Mekkethattu situated in the Vanjiyoor Athicaram, Vanjiyoor Moori, on the south side of the road leading from the Civil Hospital to the public building in Trivandrum. We had been informed by the Diwan in a letter No. 4679 dated 20th

R. 1598

October1875 that it appeared to be desirable to defer sanctioning the erection of the proposed Syrian Church, till the reference made to the British Government was finally disposed of, and that when sanction was accorded.

Your Highness would be glad to meet the Syrian Christians here a grant-in-aid of their building the trust. Your Highness will so expedite this matter as to enable us to lay the foundation stone of the new church and to depart from your Highness Metropolis.

May the Grace and peace of God always rest upon your Highness. Amen.

(Sd.)

The Patriarch of Antioch
in Syriac Characters.

Trivandrum,
3rd April, 1876.

Palace
Trivandrum
5th April 1876.

My Dear Sir,

I am directed to forward to you the accompanying representations from His Highness the Patriarch of Antioch and request you to be good enough to prepare a suitable reply to each and send the same for His Highness the Maha Rajaha's approval.

I am & c.,
(Sd.)
N. SUBA ROW.

25-9-76

Ignatius, by the Grace of God, Peter III, Patriarch of Antioch and of all the Syrian Churches in the East.

To

The Honourable by the Grace of God, established as Diwan and Chief, Administrator of Travancore.

Sends Greeting

May God grant you long life-Amen.

We have the honour to remind you of your letter No. 1746 dated

21st April 1876 forwarded to us, regarding the granting of the sanction for building a Syrian Church at Trevandrum in the garden called Nediavilagom Mekkethattu and copy of which is herewith submitted for your kind perusal.

You informed us that you had instructed the Diwan Peishkar to report on the matter. Much time has passed since then and we have not, as yet, received any letter from you on the subject. We believe that all the necessary enquiries have been, by this time, made.

Being desirous to depute a person to conduct the building of the church we pray that you will be pleased to permit us to build a church there. We pray therefore both that you may afford our Christians a fit place of worship and .that God may watch over His Highness the Maharajah and yourself by night and by day, conferring upon you every blessing, and increasing and prospering your kingdom and administration.

We have also the honour to state that it is not intended to have a burial ground in the same locality.

May the Grace and peace of God always rest upon you-Amen.

Syrian Church,
Poothooppally,
21st September 1876.

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trevandrum,
21st April, 1876.

No. 1746
R.568

To

His Highness,
The Patriarch of Antioch.

Your Holiness,

I am commanded by His Highness the Maha Rajah to acknowledge address of the 3rd instant.

2. Before according formal sanction to the erection of religious edifices, it is usual to make enquiries through the local officers, whether there is any

objection to the site on the ground of its proximity to pagodas, etc. I am instructing the Diwan Peishkar to report on the matter, and if no object in exist, sanction will be duly accorded.

3. I should mention however that if it is intended to have a burial ground also in the same locality, permission cannot be accorded, as the place, I believe, is not far from the Civil and lying-in-Hospitals, and I have received a petition from the occupants of neighboring houses, protesting against a Cementary being established there.

When these preliminaries are settled and the church itself about to be begun, His Highness well be glad to contribute.

I have the honour to be

Your Holiness,

Your most obedient servants

(Sd.)

A. SASHIAH SASTRI,

Diwan

4-10-76

Trevandrum Palace,

5th October 1876.

My Dear Sir,

I beg to send herewith by command a representation from His Holiness the Patriarch of Antioch for your views.

I am,

My dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A. SUBA ROW.

45. APPOINTMENT OF THE FIRST DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION IN COCHIN

The Maharaja's college, Ernakulam has completed a century of its existence. Mr. Alfred Forbes Sealy was first principal of this college. In 1876 he was the first Director of Education in Cochin State appointed as the letter reproduced below. Mr. Sealy, expresses his gratitude for appointing him as Director of Education.

No. 251

The High School,
Ernakulam,
Cochin,
April 4, 1876.

To

M.R. Ry. T. Shangunny Menon C.S.I.,
Diwan of Cochin.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 318 and thank you now officially as I have already done personally for the mark of confidence you have given by recommending to His Highness my appointment as Director of Education.

2. I beg you will convey to H.H. the Maharaja my respectful acknowledgements of the confidence he has been pleased to repose in me- and also to assure him that I will to the best of my ability strive to promote the advancement of Education in his dominions, and especially in the careful supervision of the High School.

3. I accept with thanks the proposed increase of Rs. 100 to my present pay and the rates for travelling allowances.

4. I shall have to request sanction for a small office establishment: but I defer this until I meet you, and at present my assistant in the High School will help me with the extra writer's work, I have had much pleasure in conveying to Mr. Cruikshark the notice of an increment to his pay of Rs. 50 a month and that this dates as well as my own increase of pay from Minam 1st, 1051.

5. I have also the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 328 enclosing copy of your correspondence with M. Cruikshank in which you kindly accede to his request to reduce the notice required to be given before terminating his engagement from three months to one month.

I trust he will not desire to leave this service but that the hope of a further recognition of the undoubted value of his service will make him content to remain.

I have the honour to remain,

Sir,

Yours obediently,

(Sd.)

ALFRED FORBES SEALY,

Director of Education

46. AMIR OF AFGHANISTAN-CONVEYING THE SYMPATHY OF THE MAHARAJA WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

Travancore was a willing and loyal ally of the British Crown. The following telegram by the Maharaja Visakham Tirunal Rama Varma (1880-1885) whose demise occurred in July 1885 and an earlier letter of 1878 signed by Diwan Nanoo Pillai relate to the voluntary services of Travancore in the British war against the Amir of Afghanistan.

Trivandrum,
1st April 1885.

TELEGRAM

From

Trivandrum,
Maharajah.

To

His Excellency the Governor,
Madras.

Please convey to Viceroy My assurance of loyalty and attachment to British Crown, on the present crisis. Resources of my State such as they are at disposal of Paramount power.

(Sd.)
RAMA VARMA,
Maharaja.

SUBMITTED TO THE CHIEF SECRETARY

In April 1885 a telegram had been sent to His Excellency the Governor by His Highness the Maharaja requesting to convey to the Viceroy, His Highness's assurance of loyalty and attachment and placing the resources of the State at the disposal of the paramount power. To this a reply telegram was received dated 3rd April 1885 to the effect that His Highness's telegram would be communicated to the Viceroy. A copy of the telegram addressed to the Governor had been sent to the Madras Mail. The connected papers are herewith sent, no other papers are forthcoming, neither did any Durbar appear to have taken place in this connection. A copy of the letter of 1878 is also sent herewith as enclosure.

(Sd.).

Trivandrum

13-11-1878.

My Dear Sir,

On an occasion like this when a misguided frontier Chieftain is disposed to treat with untimely the friendship of the British Government which other Princes have learned from the experience of years to value of their tower of strength and source of peace and prosperity to their States His Highness the Maharajah feel it His duty to express to His Excellency the Viceroy through the proper channel the feelings of distress and pain with which be regards the conduct of the Amir. Such an expression of feelings on the part of the princes of while assuring His Excellency of the devoted loyalty and readiness to rally round the Imperial throne should the need arise, may be of use also in dispelling hopes which any designing power may have been deluded into building on the weakness of their allegiance.

His Highness deeply regrets the infautcation which leads the Amir into a contest with a power like the British and hopes the deluded prince may yet appreciate the for hecorance which in the confidence of their strength they are extending to him to bring him to reason. But should, a war be necessary to maintain the dignity of the Empire and complications arise which may require

its resources to be supplemented. His Highness the Maharajah will only be too glad to have the opportunity of proving his fidelity to this ancient alliance by aiding to the best of his means in any direction in which His Excellency the Viceroy may be pleased to command, feeling that His Highness, interests are bound up by the stability and honour of the Empire.

Taken under the powerful protection of Her Most Gracious Majesty it has not been necessary for His Highness to maintain a large military force; but such as our Nair Brigade is, a Contingent could always be held ready for Service under the British flag. His Highness has just learned with much gratification from Major Caulfield the Commandant that the men have volunteered for such service. The British subsidiary force located in the State could also be withdrawn if necessary till peace is restored.

I am commanded to request you to be so kind as to convey the purport of this communication to His Excellency the Viceroy in the most acceptable manner with the expression of His Highness sentiments of high consideration and respect.

I remain,

(Sd.)

N. NANOO PILLAY.

J .B. Hannyngton Esquire
Acting Britsh Resident

(Sd.)

24-6-04.

47. CRANGANOOR FORT-AYACOTTA, VALIAPANIKANTHURUTHU AND OTHERS-LANDS PURCHASE OF FROM THE DUTCH

It was in the second half of the 18th Century that the expanding State of Travancore conquered territories upto the Cochin border. By the end of the century, both States were reduced to the status of subsidiary allies of the English East India Company. However minor disputes about the demarcation of their common border continued long afterwards. This letter deals with one such point.

Trivandrum,
3rd December 1903.

My dear Sir,

In reply to your note of the 7th October and with reference to the subsequent correspondence on the subject I beg to inform you that the other boundary cases besides the Valiapanikenthuruth case in which compensation has to be recovered from Cochin are those relating to other islets or Thuruthus in the Kanjiram or Kottamuk Puzha or river which along with the river were claimed as part of Travancore in the boundary disputes but in regard to which the Arbitrator decided that they should be retained by Cochin on payment of compensation by Travancore. The Arbitrator in his award dated 22nd April 1882 deciding that the Valiapanikenthuruthu should be retained by Cochin on payment of the proportionate cost as arranged by the agreement of 999 adjudges "the other small islands which I have included within the Cochin boundary may well be retained on the same terms". The islets referred to are those specified in Art. 20 of the agreement of 999 as 3 islets situated in the channel running east of the Fort and 5 islands to the north west ofMoothakunnu which were taken by this Government in 964 from the Dutch, exclusive of Valiapanikenthuruthu. Compensation has thus been awarded to Travancore in respect of 7 islets or Thuruthus in Kanjirampuzha. It would be seen from

enclosure 9 of your letter of the 1st instant that the compensation due for the above islands inclusive of Valiapanikenthuruth and some islands in Kottaperampu was estimated in 1017 at 2,90,752 fanams. Whether there are any other matters connected with the Arbitrator's award in which adjustment remains to be made can the Ettumanur Deputy Tahsildar says, be only ascertained after making references to the Vaikom, Kunnathunad, Alengad and Parur Tahsildars and the Malayalam Memo prepared by the Deputy Tahsildar specifies the subjects in respect of which the Tahsildars have to be written to. The enclosures of your note of the 1st instant are returned herewith.

I am & c.,

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.)

S. PADMANABHA AIYAR

48. PUNISHMENT TO STUDENTS IN SIRKAR SCHOOLS

In earlier days there were strict directions regarding the nature and extent of the corporal punishments to be inflicted on pupils in Government Schools for offences of various nature such as lying theft etc. Reproduced below are two Circulars issued by Mr.A.F.Sealy, the Director of Education, Cochin State which may be of interest to the students, teachers and parents alike.

No. 723.

CIRCULAR NO. 26 REGARDING CORPORAL PUNISHMENT, 19TH JULY 1890

No Corporal punishment is to be inflicted on a pupil in any class of a Sirkar School except by the Headmaster of the School, or at his express order and in his presence. A teacher should be able to control his class without employing severity, of using a cane, and I think, it is only cases of insubordination lying theft, or extreme idleness which need a flogging and this should be given by the Headmaster. No little cane, or strap or stick or ruler should be used to strike the boys with, by any teacher in his class and distinctly prohibit a teacher from punishing his pupils with blows. A reproof may be given, but the Headmaster alone must decide if any flogging is needed, and this should be very seldom. Teachers stand in the place of parents to their pupils and kind and encouraging words are generally better than blows to make boys work, so there should be no cane or strap in a teacher's hands to be an object of terror to his pupils. Good discipline, punctuality in attendance and deligence in study and to be more sedulously insisted upon and always maintained, but this can be done, I believe without resort in general to Corporal punishment.

(Sd.)

ALFRED FORBES SEALY,

Director of Education.

No. 801.

11th April 1881.

CIRCULAR

From

Alfred Forbes Sealy Esquire,
Director of Education.

To

All the District School Head Masters.

No corporal punishment shall be inflicted except in cases of moral delinquency such as deliberate lying, theft obscenity of words or act open insubordination or extreme idleness, and then it shall not exceed (3) eight cuts upon the hand to be administered by the Head Master himself or at his express order and in his presence.

The Head Master is required to record in the attendance Register every such case of punishment specifying the date, the name, class & age of the pupil the nature of the offence and the number of cuts given. This record should be made in the Attendance Register and a copy of the record sent to the Director on the same day the punishment is inflicted.

I would advise in most cases the delay of the punishment until the day after the detection of the fault, except perhaps in cases of flagrant insubordination which may be immediately dealt with.

All corporal punishments may be at the discretion of the Head Master inflicted in the presence of the whole school or only; of the class to which the culprit belongs but it must be in presence of at last some of the assistant Masters.

(Sd.)
ALFRED FORBES SEALY,
Director of Education

49. NOTE BY LOGAN, SPECIAL COMMISSIONER REGARDING VILLAGE ESTABLISHMENT

William Logan and his work "Malabar Manual' are well known to students of Kerala History. His report on the tenurial system of Malabar with his proposals to end rural poverty and to pacify the prevalent agrarian tension anticipated future land legislation in the State. The document cited here throws light on Logan's views about village establishment and the origin of land ownership.

NOTE

Sir Thomas Munro in 1817 visited Malabar with a view to organizing a Village Establishment. He had been told previous to his coming that Malabar different from the rest of India in having no village Establishment, but this he found on enquiry to be incorrect.

2. He found that for some purpose or other Malabar "was in the earliest times divided like the other Provinces of India into Districts and Villages, the limits of which but more especially of the Villages remain un-changed to this day." the Districts and Villages (Styled by him "Naurs" and "Desims" respectively) had been formerly under hereditary chiefs.

3. Going on to speak of the "Desim" he observed "The Headman was called the Desway or the Jelmuvar according as he enjoyed the whole or only a part of the rights which were supposed to the constituting the compleat chief of the Desim".

4. These rights he then proceeded to describe as follows:-

"1st. The Ambul Puddi, or the direction of the religious ceremonies of the Village Pagoda".

"2nd. The Ooraimah, or the management of the Pagoda land and servents".

"3nd. Desmi, or the control of marriages and all village ceremonies none of which could be performed without his leave",

"4th. Desadiput or the general superintendence of all affairs of the Desim or Village."

When the Head of the Desim held all these rights he was styled as Desway. When he held Nos. 3 and 4 but did not hold Nos. I and 2 he was styled as Jelmuvar of the Desim.

5. These rights could be sold, but they could not be separated in the sale. If sold, they were sold together.

6. When there was no Pagoda in a Desim there could be no Desway and only a Jelmuvar at the Head of the Village. "The Jelmuvar had in his own village all the authority of the desway but not having the honors supposed to be attached to the supremacy of the Pagoda his office was not considered as so respectable".

7. The rights whether of Desway or Jelmuvar were held in such esti-mation that it was considered disgraceful to sell them.

8. "These rights together with the landed property of the Village were originally obtained from the Namboorie Brahmans who were the ancient proprietors of the whole country, and though the Desway might have been compelled to alienate the greater part or even the whole of his land he seldom ever parted with them" (Desway rights) "because so long as he retained them he was still the Head of the village and respected as such." Hence in some instance Sir T. Munro found that the Head of the Village did not even reside in his Village (in which all the land had been sold to Moplahs) but, still preserving his rights, lived in a neighbouring one inhabited by Nayars.

9. The fact that the Desways were at one time the sole proprietors of the Lands of their respective Villages was again alluded to by Sir Thomas Munro.

10. There was a Desway for every village except where the village was the private property of the Chief of the District called the "Naurwalli" or the Raja-but even in Villages "which the Raja had acquired the property of by purchase the old Desways still retained their offices".

11. "When there was no Desway the Raja employed an officer called the prowurtikar as the Manager of one or more Villages according to their size."

12. Sir Thomas Munro then proceeded to detail the other duties which fell to the lot of the Head of the Village & C. and wound up with an analysis of the number of Villages in Malabar in which the Desway rights explained above were held.

1. By desways.
2. ,, Jelmuvars.
3. ,, Naurways or Naurwallis.
4. ,, Rajas.
5. ,, Pagodas.

13. I have been thus particular in detailing the results of Sir T. Munro's * enquiries, because they seem to throw an important light on the position of a Janmi in former days.

14. Sir T. Munro's "Desim" and Desway' and "Naur" and "Naurwalli" and "Prowurtikar" are clearly the Malayalam terms. ദേശം, ദേശവാഴി, നാടു, നാടുവാഴി, പ്രവൃത്തിക്കാരൻ.

15. So also his "Jelmuvar" or "Jelmivar" cannot be anything else than ജൻമക്കാരൻ or ജൻമാരി or ജൻമക്കാരി or ജൻമി. Another form of the same word also given by Gundert is ജൻമേശൻ.

16. For I find in the early British records that the word is written indiscriminately as "Jelmkaar", "Jenmkaar", "Jimikar", "Jelnmkaar" and the word ജൻമം is most frequently transliterated as "Jelm".

17. Accepting them Sir T. Munro's "Jelmuvar" as equivalent to the Malayalam ജൻമക്കാരൻ or ജൻമി it is clear from his description of their rights and duties that in the olden days they held a very different position to what they do now. Sir T. Munro lays down specifically that a man might have partee with all his land in a Desam and still retain the Janmam of it. Now a day the term Janmam is as nearly as possible equivalent to the old Roman"Dominium" that is, the sum of all the rights over a thing.

* The report will be found printed in the Revenue Selections Vol. 1.

18. I find, in corroboration of Sir T. Munro's assertions that Janmam in former days was something more than "Dominium":- for example:-- in a "Royal writing" a legal sale in "Malabar Junmum" there was transferred along with the District mentioned in it "every right I have in it beginning with the Revenues and ending with other profit, as well as all fortified place; under the said District Penalties or Condemnations and Customs beginning with one principal and ending with all other things":-The last part of the sentence was subsequently explained as meaning the transfer of power of "administering justice both Civil and Criminal even to the cutting off the hands of a thief:".

19. Further in several deeds transferring land on അട്ടിപ്പേറ് right executed prior to the Muhamadan invasion of Malabar there is no mention in them of the grant of any political privileges, although in all other respects the transfer or rights in the Soil is as complete as if the lands had been transferred in the modern sense of the word Janmam.

20. In the Tellicherry Factory Records of February 12-1748-49 there occurs the following sentence which seems to point in the same direction "The chief told* then he would write His Highness concerning it observing to them that they could not be insensible the Trees called "attiper" were only those whose proprietor was the absolute Ground Landlord and those of "Caadimanier" (sic-probably കുടിയാൻമാർ) "such as were planted by tenant and pay annually one or two fanams which could not be sold without the consent of the Ground Landlord".

21. The conclusions I draw from the above facts are:-

(a) That the use of the word Janmam as equivalent to the Latin word Dominium is quite a modern use of the word.

(b) that the real ancient equivalent of the Latin word Dominium is attipper.

(c) And that in former days a Janmi might have disposed. On attiper of all his rights in the soil of his Janmam and might still be Janmi of the whole of it- that in short Janmam was nothing but a Sthanam, or Office.

22. Colonel Walker whose report (dated 20th July 1801) has been the standard authority on questions of tenure in Malabar seems to have been

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* The Rajahdores of the Kolattiri Raja.

misled in his description of what Janmam right really was by a deed which he gives in full but which (if it was a genuine deed at all) bears date the Malayalam year A.D.1795-96970.ME Some years AFTER Malabar had passed into British hands. That same misgivings on the subject had occrred to him is evident from the contradictory statements on the point as to,

Whether a Janmi was or was not entitled to political privileges which will be found at pages 29, 41 and 42 of the Pamphlet containing his report. *

23. Mr. C. Tiruvenkata Chariar who last year published a small treatise on Cochin Tenures draws I see a distinction between a 'Janmabhumipatrika' and an attipettolakkaranam' but he does not clearly distinguish between the rights which those deeds respectively convey. All that can be gathered from his work is, that at the execution of the Janmabhumipatrika there is a gift of water and money made in the presence of a person representing the Raja and of several others all of whom must attend to make the transaction valid, whereas the attipettolakkaranam required that a gift of water, rice, flowers and money be made at the time of execution, but no mention is made of the presence of any third parties being required to give validity to the transaction. He next observes that the sale by one Janmi to another Janmi is called a sale of Janmam; while a similar sale to one who is not a Janmi is called a sale on attiper, or (as in some parts)'Nettam', a word which, so far as I know, is not used in Malabar. He concludes with the difinition of a Janmi that those persons only who had extensive Janman property were in former days called Janmi.

This is hardly a satisfactory explanation of the term and, I believe, the true reason for these distinctions will be found in what I have set forth above.

24. My object in preparing this note is, to draw fourth information on the subject which it must be in the power of many persons to give, particularly in the states of Cochin and Travancore where, one may suppose, the original

*Published at the Collectorate Press 1862
**As a matter of fact I find. that in two such deeds executed respectively in the Malayalam year 914 and 925 the one was witnessed but only two persons whose names are given, and the other likewise by two persons in the presence of the neighbours.

state of society has remained more unaffected by changes than in British Territory. It is not so much expressions of opinion that are wanted, as records of fact telling for or against the views herein explained. I shall gladly welcome and acknowledge all information furnished to me in this matter.

W. LOGAN,
Special Commissioner.

Palghatt,
25th July 1881.

Residents Office,
Trivandrum,
12th August 1881.

No. 754

To

The Diwan of Travancore

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith 15 printed copies of a note prepared by Mr. Logan on the, subject of Jamam rights and privileges and request that you will be good enough to send them to such parties as you may consider likely to be (brittle) to your information on the subject.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

(Sd.)

Ag. Resident

50. AN INTERESTING LETTER TO THE RESIDENT

A letter from the priest at Varopoly to the Assistant Resident, Major Steward regarding the oppression of the Christian people by various demands on account of Hindu Pagodas.

To

Major-Stewar, Assistant Resident,

Sir,

I beg leave to inform you that there appeared before me some Christian Malabar people and inhabitants to the District of Cochin, Rajah residing at a place called Cherannellor-Parishioners pertaining to the church of Varopoly with a sentiment containing that how they were last year molested through some gentoo fellows on account of their pretenting to have from them coconut and other things for the use of the Pagodas prior to the ancient customs and as like-wise the said gentoo-fellows have practicated themselves in this year also to be done in the same like manner, and as you are well known the writings of the sentiments from those Christian people. I have the honour therefore to enclose the same herewith and I beg leave further to add that the gentoo successively moving themselves forthwith their ancient pretention either they do constringe the christian people to serve their pagodas or to pay money and rictuals for the use of pagodas, but in all circumstances the late Residents has made many favour in behalf of the Christian people not only to be free from any service and contribution to the pagodas, but as also prevented to those people who are making voilence to the same motive. In the year 1816, the late Resident Colonel J. Munro has made a great favour to all the Christian Malabar people that, they may be free from every such contribution and duty to the Pagodas, vitaras proclaimed so far an order given by her Highness the Ranee of Travancore throughout the Territories at the Court station and as like-wise an original letter of the said order segued by Her Highness has been

sent to the respective super of the Christian Malabar people which copy, I beg leave together to enclose herewith in order that you might be certified from the said order. We think that it is entirely unlawful behaviour that now those gentoo-fellows are commencing again to act with these ancient custom against the establishments and order from the Hon'ble the Government and meant to withdraw these Christian people in this like manner from the favourable protection of the British gentlemen, I therefore sent these Christian people to approach before you with their grievance, in full hopes that you shall be, pleased to afford them justice accordingly to their being merited with which I declare to be with due respect.

D V Lig. lttomos

Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
P. Nicoles De.Gasee Esq.,
Vicar Gnl.

Verapoly,
25th January,
A.D 1820.

51. OLD LETTERS REGARDING THE L.M.S. CHURCH

"Hundred years ago, it is a fact of surprise to note the influence enjoyed by the L.MS. in Travancore. The very old letters reproduced below between the Commander Nair Brigade and the Trustee of the Protestant Christian Congregation in a matter of dispute pointing out the strong influence exercised by the L. M. S. in Travancore".

For the information of the Diwan of Travancore.

Trivandrum,
10th March, 1881.

To

Major W.D.B. Ketchen,
Commanding Nair Brigade.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of today, in which you propose to request the Government to take from the Trustees of the Protestant Church whole of the land (with two small exceptions) belonging to them outside the present enclosure wall.

The trustees never willingly agreed to give up the land outside the enclosure wall, as it is essential to the quiet use of the church to keep of all public annoyance as far as possible. The seizure of their land was indeed, threatened by the then Diwan and any seeming assant of the Trustees could only arise from the fact that they had reason to expect little consideration.

I beg to remind you that on the 1st instant, you positively and repeatedly assured that whatever land the Trustees possessed, if they objected you would not touch any of it, I answered that we should not object to your having the small portion on the North of the road from your gate which seemed necessary for your present purposes.

The land on the south side of the Church can be of no use to you for parade purposes and I hope you will not demand it. The trustees to object to any more land being taken than the portion on the North side already agreed to and specified, in your private note of 2nd instant.

I have the honor to be etc.
(Sd.)
Treasurer & Trustee of the Protestant,
Place of worship.

HEAD TRUSTEES, BODY GUARD.

Nair Bngade,
Trivandrum
11th March 1881.

No. 80

To

The Treasurer & Trustee of the Protestant Christian Congregation,
Trivandrum.

Rev. Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of yesterday's date.

2. Referring to the latter part of para 2 thereof, I must point out to you that you are mistaken in supposing that the then Diwan threatened to 'seize' the land.

It was at the instance of the Resident, that the Government decided to Resume the land paying compensation for it-The land is part of the Parade ground of the Old Company's Troops and in public grounds the Resident considered that it should be resumed. The Government and the Officer Commanding quite agreed with the views entertained by the Resident.

3. It does not appear from the records. I have perused that the Trustee made any further objective than that he wished to retain the two small portion referred to in my letter No. 76 of yesterday's date, I quote his (your own) words:-

"one stipulation only is of importance the church
"requires to be enlarged which can only be done at
" the western end. It will therefore be necessary
"or us to enclose a width of 30 feet more within
"the walls at the western side only-of course

" without encroaching upon the road running
" North-east & South-West. A few yards should also be left close
" to the stable in case a caretaker's house should
" be required-But about these small matters
" we presume there will be no difficulty in arranging.

4. It was needless to remind me of what took place when we met m the 1st inst. - the rough sketch which was attached to my note referred to by you in the last Para of the letter now under reply showed all I require for Parade purposes.

The resumption of the land was decided on before I assumed command but as it came to my notice in the course of business, it was clearly my duty to let the Diwan know of it as I should otherwise have felt I was keeping him in the dark.

5. On the occasion of our visiting the ground and also when I wrote to you demi-officially I was completely in the dark and I regret much that you did not enlighten me as had you informed me that the Government has already intimated to you that they had decided to resume the land, I would not as a matter of course have interferred with their decision.

6. You have not replied to the last para of my letter No. 78 Kindly do so.

7. I observe you use the word 'Trustees' in the plural will-you be so good as to let me know who the Trustees are; I shall be glad to know this as should any question arise after you leave it is necessary for me to be made acquainted with whom I shall have to correspond.

Your early reply to para 6 & 7 of this letter will much obligate.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant

(Sd.)

M. D. BRODIE KETCHEN

MAYER

Commandmg Nair Brigade.

52. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY-REPORT ON THE GOLD PRODUCING PARTS OF THE PEERMADE HILLS

It is interesting to note that even in the later years of the 19th century Geological Surveys were being conducted in Travancore. Usually hilly and rock-bedded areas are the centers from where we get ores of gold and other metals. So it is quite natural that Peermade and adjacent high-ranges were the centres selected for exploration for gold. Even though the attempt was futile because of the low quantity of gold granules acquired from the ores it was a step in the right direction.

Camp Geological Survey of India
Cape Comorin, March 14th 1881

From

Will: King, Esq.,
Deputy Superintendent,
Geological Survey of India.

To

The Honorable V. Ramiengar, C.S.I.,
Diwan of Travancore.

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Travancore Government, as follows, on the gold-bearing qualities of the quarts outcrops of Peermade and the adjacent country.

In the first place, and without further preamble, these outcrops of quartz are not reefs as usually understood but are true beds of quartz-rock lying between and running with other beds of the country rock which is of the geneiss or crystalline series. Reefs or veins of quartz generally run across the

country rock as in Wainad or in the Kollar region of Mysore-Secondly, the size of these outcrops is small, only one of them being sufficiently large to allow any expectations of what might be called a good tonnage of stone-Thirdly, most important of all, the quartz of the outcrops, though it shows on a close assay, traces of gold, is certainly not rich enough to be called auriferous quartz in the usual acceptation of the term.

I have now, also, seen sufficient of the country, to the west as far as the sea coast, eastward for some distance down the Gudalur Ghat, and south-wards to the round between Kurtallum and Trevandrum, to be able to give much the same opinion of its auriferousness as I do of the Peermade range. There, then, only remains the northern portion of Travancore, more particularly the hilly part or what is called the "high ranges" which might, as being nearer the Nilgiri and Wainad country, possibly possess auriferous reefs. However I have been on a portion of the Annamalais and did not notice any reegs there; so that I am not particularly hopeful that the northern region will be found more promising. I have been unable to examine any portion of southern Travancore; but I understand an expert is now visiting that region under the auspices of the scottish Indian Company, and from him doubtless a trustworthy report as to the auriferiousness of that part of the country may be obtained. I may however state, from what I saw of the country between Kurtallum and Trivandrum, that the rocks crossed on that traverse are ranging away to the south-eastward very much in the (brittle). Westward; and that probably quartz outcrops of the kind will be found to the south-east.

Above all, it must be remembered that there appears to be no evidence of any old gold workings or washings in the hilly regions of Travancore; and this was a point I had always before me in my consideration of the Peermade region-Only lately a map of the gold regions of south India has been issued by Messrs. Wyld and Co., of London, in which some serious errors as to the range of gold reefs have been allowed to be laid down, with one error of omission, and among them is the illustration of Travancore as a gold bearing country. How this information could have been obtained I know not, but the facts of the case are entirely against such delineation on the map.

As a commencement for my examination of Peermade, I was shown (by Mr. Rohde the Commercial Agent to the Travancore at Alleppey) some large pieces of quartz-rock which had been sent down from the Peermade hills; but these made me at once doubtful as to their being reef quartz, while I could not notice any visible gold in them. The rock is really a compound of quartz and felspar-the later mineral being certainly very thinly distributed through the mass-and not a pure quartz as in usually the case with the vein rock. At the same time, I could only doubt, for the specimens might after all the form the edge of a reef where a mineral such as the felspar some times does occur.

On the route from Kottayam to Peermade, which is, as being across the strike or run of the rocks of the country, a capital line of observation as to the behaviour of any quartz associated with these rocks; I had plenty of opportunity for seeing that the quartz which does occur is running with the gneiss is in fact, part and parcel of the gneiss series intend of, as it ought to be if it were reef or vein quartz, a subsequent formation quite independent of and foreign to country rock.

The first good outcrop in the Peermade range occurs at above the fortieth mile near the top of the ghaut, below Mr. Prohyn's estate: but this is merely a seam or thin bed of quartz-rock largely made up also of felspar. It is striking or ranging N.N.W-S.S.E. and is dipping at a high angle sometimes to the eastward, at other times to the westward. I subsequently ascertained that this is a southerly prolongation of a much larger outcrop on the west slope of the Amberamallai hill, to which I shall again refer further on.

The country rock of the Peermade range is essentially a very quartzose form of gneiss, and hence it is not at all extraordinary that beds of mere or less pure quartz-rock should occur. There is also a good deal of very massive dark-coloured hornblendie rock which, owing to the flat lie of the beds in some places, given an exaggerated idea of its preponderance over the more quartzose and lighter-colored forms of the gneiss. Indeed, the very light colored and friable soils of Peermade, and the darker-colored soil of the Peryaur are the necessary results of the degradation of such a style of rocks.

These forms of gneiss are remarkably well bedded, much more so than is usual with so highly altered or metarorphosed a series; and thus the strike or range of the beds is very clear from north, north-west to south; south-east, while their dip is just as plain-first of all, on the western edge of the hills, nearly vertical, and then, going eastward, assuring a gradually lower angle to the eastward. They become nearly flat in the middle of the range, then rise up rather and again roll down into the Peryaur valley beyond which the easterly dip to preserved right into the Cumbum valley.

Now there is no doubt that the outcrops of quartz-ore quartz-rock as it properly is-are running with the strike and dip of these beds. In the first place, there is the strong seem or bed or the Amberamully hill. It come to the surface at four hundred yards down the western slope below the Trigono-metrical station and was there pointed out to me by Mr. Samuel Baker; and under his guidance, I was able to see it running away down the southern valley and so across to Probyn's Estate on the Ghat. To the northwards, we found it running down to the Bison Valley estate where I think it is much broken, or thins out frequently in crossing that estate, before it appears again in the Ibex ledges away further to the northwards. It lies nearly vertical in the Amberamullay is about 10 feet thick. There is thus a very large amount of stone in this hill, sufficiently large indeed to warrant its being broken up, if it were only a reef of quartz and above all auriferous.

On the north-eastern slopes of this same hill, and down in Messrs. Munro and Eagan's estates, there are again several smaller seams of similar quartz rock; and in the large stream dividing the two estates, there are some crushed up outcrops which, were I not convinced of their bedded character as distinguished from true roofs, I should myself have considered ratner promising. Nay, it is quite possible that they may at this point, owing to the folded and crushed-up condition of the beds, be really auriferous to some extent, but this will be very local. In this neighbourhood, the beds are assuring their easterly dip.

The next run of quartz-rock of any importance is that in the Arraday valley, the examination of which I was most obligingly assisted by Mr. Ackworth of

the wood-lands Estate. This is a very capricious beds thickening and thinning out very frequently and only about two feet thick at its best. It is very often highly fespathic, the small masses of buff and salmon-red felspar being sometimes very numerous.

On the eastern side of the Araday valley, the beds become much flatter and thus the out crops of these forming the higher ridges gets carried away more to the eastward and so into the Pambanar valley. An outcrop of quartzrock in Mr. Deighten's estate is thus continued in the (brittle): are several small outcrops most of which however are only portions of a small number of beds. The strongest of these forms a sort of capping on the summit a small ridge on the eastern side of the property; and from the crest of this some large blocks of the quartz have tumbled down into the valley. At the crest, the bed is about 10 feet thick, while it is, nearly horizontal or dipping at a very small angle to the eastward, and thus forms the whole summit of the ridge for about 100 yards or so. It then bends or dip downwards to the east-north-east gradually thinning out until, in the saddle below there is scareely more than a foot in thickness, and then this dwindles down to a few inches. In the same way, the bend thins out to the north and south.

A sample of the rock from this outcrop has been assayed by Messrs. P. Orr and Sons of Madras, and gold was found in it at the rate of 2 dwts. I gr. to the ton; that is, considering that the samples examined by Messrs. P. Orr and Sons purport to be about 2lbs. in weight, the 1/1200 part of 2 dwts. I gr. must have been found in this sample.

Very much however in the same strike, but a good way to the northwest, there is a further strong outcrop of quartz-rock in the Pambanar Valley, at the crossing of the path from the high road to the Gramby Estate, where the rock is seen on both sides of the stream only now with a low westernly dip. At the eastern side of the stream where the path rises up over a saddle, the outcrop forms a good portion of the easy alope of the right to the northward and here the ground is a good deal out up and knocked about as if it were an old site of mining and washing such as is seen on the Nilgiris or in Wainad. It turned out,

however, that this path was one of the main old reads of the bills and that there is an old halting place, near the ford, which used to be, and is still, much frequently by cattle; and careful search failed to show any more signs of old cashings. I could see no gold visible in the rock; and a sample 33 lbs. in weight, which I had crushed and washed did not produce a single speak of gold. This sample was from the west side of the road where the bed is about three feet thick. As in all the other outcrops, except that on the western slopes of Amberamally, this bed too thins out to the southwards and it is not seen to cross the main road from Peermade to the Peryaur.

Such are the main outcrops and in all of these the rock is more or less of the same constitution namely, a quartz-rock with very often a good deal of felspar distributed through it in small crystalline masses sometimes as large as peas. Generally, coarsely crystallized dull white and glasay quartz; and less often, a more compa rock like that of a vein or roof. It is generally of a white colour, but at times it is a tained red or even a golden yellow from ferruginous matter, and scattered through it, there is often a small quantity of iron pyrites, or frequent small particles of magnetic iron etc. It is also cavernous or cellular to some extent, but cavities are mostly such as have been left by the washing out of the small masses of felspar.

Some very distinctive features about these outcrops may also be pointed out as further proof that they are not reefs or veins; namely, they do not, as far as I have seen, send off any leaders or small side veins into the rock above or below them, nor do they show any casing, or separate material lying between them and the rocks they are associated with. In fact, they have no walls but run between the other gneiss beds as seams or beds themselves often indeed shading rather quietly into the bed above or below then.

Having thus given a very decided opinion on to the non-aurifcrousness of these outcrops and their small extent, it may hardly seen worth while entering on the consideration of minding rights; but my inter course with the landed proprietors of the Travancore Hills has shown me that the knowledge of the existence of quartz of some kind or other, may in some cases and does in

many others, keeping in their minds the idea that ores and mineral and possibly noble metals may be on their properties and that mining rights ought to be settled one way or other. At any rate, there is wide discontent among the land-holders at the non-settlement of mining rights in their leases, and as there is always a possibility that gold may be found, or that a belief in the auriferousness of quartz may enhance the value of estates, it is as well that their rights should be settled. No better example of the annoyance and delay consequent on doubtful or unsettled tenure can be put forward than that of the Wainad lands.

The Travancore Government should decide either on a complete reservation of mining rights, that is, that the landed proprietors shall have no right or title to any ores, minerals, or noble metals existing on their properties, and that the Government can enter on and take them out or lease them separately to other persons, entry being made at a fair valuation for damage and loss caused to the present landed proprietors; or else fix on a royalty to be demanded on the gross out-turn of all ores, minerals, noble metals and C.

I myself would suggest a royalty; but, and in the case of fresh lands which are known (this must be decided by an expert) to contain such minerals, then such lands must be taken up for bonafide mining in blocks of a certain size and to be entered upon and mining operations commenced within a certain period. The buying and selling of land merely on mining probabilities must be guarded against. For such lands also the upset price per acre might be different to that of other lands.

I do not myself, however, expect that there is much land in Travancore likely to be taken up solely for mining; so the question reduces itself to one of dealing with the present landed proprietors and for this as I have said I would recommend a royalty.

The lowest royalty is as far as I can remember now, that asked in native States rarely 3 per cent on the gross out-turn of gold, and it in found to work well in that colony. In any case a Government ought to encourage the mining of the noble metals, for of all mining it is about the most expensive and difficult; hence I think that a 3 per cent royalty right be fairly adopted.

At the same time it would be manifestly hard and perhaps unfair on the present proprietors who are the poineers in the cultivation of the country and have borne the heat and burden of the day for many years, to exact from them the same terms which will be demanded from new men. It might therefore be as well as to deal liberally with them in filling in a clause in their leases which has so long lain unsettled. They might of course gain greatly in the selling of their estates on a sudden rise in the value of quartz for instance; but it might be possible to meet on apparent injury to them in the exaction of a permanent royalty, by fixing a period beyond which the laying of such a royalty would come into force.

I have O & C.,

(Sd.)

WILL KING,

Deputy Superintendent,

Geological Survey of India.

53. BHAGAVATHY COIL IN CHITHARAL ROCK

Given below is a description regarding Bhagavathy Coil in Chitharal Rock. This report was submitted to the Diwan of Travancore by Dy. Peishkar in charge.

C. No. 149 28th April, 1881.

I inspected the Bhuddhist Temple of Chithat al on 28th April.

I submit a brief account.

The temple faces west and stands on a rock which is the most elevated in the neighbourhood. The place is known as Chitharal and the temple is dedicated to a goddess and is called Bagavathy Coil. The place is marked in ward and Conners Maps as 'Sharaul' and lies north east of Kuliteray. There is a LINCK Tower (ഗോപുരം)of a small size, but the Temple and the Tower are in a most dilapidated conditions. They will not stand another three monsoons. There is a water spring on the rock in front of the Pagoda within a few yards. This supplies all the water for the Pagoda and the officiating priest (potty) uses it as a bathing tank as well. The Tantri of the Pagoda is a Nambiar (നമ്പ്യാർ) but the Potty performs the Poojas as the Nambiar's deputy. I mention this circumstances of the Nambiar being the Tantri to show the origin of the Pagoda as being foreign which it must be if it is a Bhuddhist Temple.

The entrance door is quarded by two figures (Kshetra Palakas) as is usually the case in Hindoo Temples. The Pagoda is a simple building with a hall in front divided by two rows of stone pillars. The Srikovil (ശ്രീകോവിൽ) is divided into 3 compartments and between the hall and the line of compartments, there is a small space left open to all the rooms. There is no skilled worksmanship in stone of any kind. It is all plain work.

The Srikovil (ശ്രീകോവിൽ) including all the rooms is cut out of a large rock under which stand all the images in the rooms. The rock is polished and

plastered with chunam inside-the chunam work has fallen off-to some extent. The hall and the narrow line in front of the Srikovil are outside this rock.

Of the three rooms all facing the west the one at the northern and contains 6 images. A temple deity standing with two boy figures facing west, a grown up girl figure facing north, and a male deity on the right side facing south Behind the female deity is the figure of a lion representing her vehicle (വാഹനം). In the central room are 4 figures. The most important is the image of Muni (മുനി) facing West in a sitting posture called Pathmasanam (പത്മാ സനം) on an elevated stone Plinth, quite naked having no tuft of hair, no beard face quite shaven appearance, no Brahminical thread marks of ashes on the, fore-head, said to be the work of the Pagoda priest and of a recent origin, his bowed head is handed round with a string of leads made of holy Thulasi wood, there are two disciples behind this image. On the right hand is an image of Vishnu facing south. The Muni is adorned with a ties of 3 umbrellas looking like a Tripple crown or the tiara of old with the snake entwining the hold of the umbrella. In the Southern room is also a Muni of the same fashion as in the Central room with two figures of disciples.

The images are all made of a hard paste called Kaduku Sherkaray (കടുക് ശർക്കര) the frame works is evidently of a teak for other wood handed strongly with coi and a kind of rough cloth. The paste is what is seen outermost and has evidently stood for ages past and promises to stand for a long time to come. I sent you herewith a broken piece of the paste which the Potty has picked up and given me. The images are of course not subjected to daily ablutions (അഭിഷേകം) as they will be in case they are of metal or stone.

In the north of the Pagoda the rock is cut in and the plain surfac is protected from rain by the uncut portion over hanging. 32 figures are cut out on this plain surface in has relief being mostly repetitions, of the images in the pagoda. There are three inscriptions on the plain surface of this rock in the space left between the figures. There is another inscription on a piece of broken pillar used as one of the stone steps and a fifth inscription on a pavement stone in front of the Pagoda.

I send you herewith one of the inscriptions copied from the stone in which the only letter I could make out, I have doubly underlined the characters in all

the inscriptions are unreadable. I have ordered for copies of all the other inscriptions and will submit them soon.

I will send you also a plan of the Pagoda.

The inscriptions are all outside the temple and will afford interesting research to European visitors like Mr. Swell.

(Sd.)
V. NAGAMAYA,
Deputy Peishkar in-charge

54. INSPECTION OF A ROCK TEMPLE

Given below is a description regarding a rock temple namely Madavoor Paray, siutated about 5 miles to the North East of Kazhacottam. This report was submitted to the Diwan of Travancore by the Paravagaysherisitadar in charge of Trivandrum Division a centuary ago.

Trevandrum
28th July, 1881.

Subject-The Inspection of a Budhist Temple 2 or 3 miles North or North East of Kalacottam Nos. 2110 and 2835.

My Dear Sir,

With reference to your memos (subject and Nos. noted in the margin) I beg to inform you that there is no temple called (മുനികൾ കോവിൽ) any where in the vicinity of Kalacottam, but there is another about 5 miles to the north, east of the same village and it is known by the name of Madavoor Paray (മടവൂർ പാറ). This Paray or rock is a huge bolder several hundred years long and broad and about 180 ft. high is situated on the northern bank of a Tala or valley known as Kuruvalla Yala in the Aulinery muree of the Kalacottam Adigram and from the top commands a very distant view, most of the public buildings of Trevandrum and the Arabian Sea being visible. The foot of the rock is reached by ascending a number of laterite and granite steps and the rock itself is surrounded by tall jungle trees and cane jungle. On the southern face of it are two cave like hallows, one of which is closed by means of large pieces of granite and the other is a Siva temple. This temple is a little more than 50 ft. from the foot of the rock and we get to it by scaling about 20 steep and dangerous steps. At the top of these steps is a platform 6 ft. by 12,

and a portion of this is railed in an formed into an antoroom, on the right and left walls of which are to large figures one of Vignaswara and the other of Soobramony Swamy. In the centre of other wall is the entrance into the cave or temple where the figure of Siva is scoped out from the rock itself and on either side of this entrance are two large figures (ദ്വാരപാലകർ). The cave temple is oblong and its dimensions are 12 ft. long. 4 ft. broad and 7½ ft. high. There are no engravings of any kind, except the figures already mentioned, which according to the tradition of the place were selfcut, were dim and illegible at one time but have come into hold relief of late years, and continue to do so year after year. The temple is the property of a Jenmi by name Kuruvalla Mayshari Patti, who, when questioned about its origin and history and about to the (ഗ്രന്ഥവരി) which would through light upon these said that beyond the tradition already explained he knew nothing whatever and that there were no records. He more over says that it is a very ancient place of workship. A sudra of the place (Varathoor Asan) has recently constructed a small well a tank a mudumbalam and a timber light stand the former 3 at the foot of the rocks and the last in front of the idol.

There are no marks in the temple which would show that it is of Budhist origin.

I remain

Yours faithfully,
Paruvagaysheristadar in charge of the Trivandrum Division.

The Honourable
Ramiengar Avergal, C.S.I.,
Diwan of Travancore.

55. THE COINAGE OF COCHIN

The following letter from the Diwan of Cochin to the British Resident in the year 1882 gives a detailed account on the coinage that existed in Cochin nearly two centuries ago. The Diwan's mentioning of the destruction of the State Records of Cochin consequent on the invasion of Tippu Sultan is also of special significance.

Ernakulam,
11th September 1882.

My dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 26th ultimo, I beg to send you the following particulars.

The Cochin Government has always had its own coins, but owing to the limited extent of territory in which they were legal tender it has not been found necessary to maintain a permanent mint Establishment. Whenever it was found necessary to issue new coins, a temporary establishment was employed for the purpose, and at one time it appears that they were coined at the Dutch Mint in what is now British Cochin.

The coinage of Cochin consists of the Single Puthen or "New Panom" of the value of 10 pies, which was the only one in use in former days, and the Double Puthens of the value of two single Puthens or annas 1-8. Our accounts show that between the years 958/1782/83 and 996 M.E./1790/91 A.D. 45, 84150 Puthen were coined at the Dutch Mint for the then Raja, and from Canter Vischer's "Letters from Malabar" which had been written 40 or 50 years previous to the above date, it appears that the Dutch were even then coining money for this Government.

In 996/7 M.E./1820-21 A.D. this Government coined through its own

servants 9,62,673 double Puthens with 91,683 ¼ Rupees weight of silver. This is the first time that double Puthens were coined.

The latest coinage in this State took place between the years 1023 and 1034 M.E. when the Sirkar ordered 2,08,313 double Puthens and 2,06,532 single Puthens to be coined. The figure on the obverse side of both the single and double Puthen is intended to represent the Idol of Vishnu in the Pagoda at Trippunithura, where the Royal Family usually reside, and on reverse side is the device of a shank or shell. In the mintage of anterior times different dyes appear to have been used, and whether all these ancient coins were struck at the Dutch Mint, or whether some of them were coined by the Raja's own people, it is impossible to determine.

The silver coins above described are current only in Cochin territory, in British Cochin and some of the Northern Districts of Travancore. The currency of this, State however, is not confined to the local coinage. The coins of Btitish India which are legal tender in this country enter principally into the circulation.

There is nothing to show that we had at any time any other coins than the above, expecting the fact of the Government accounts having always been kept in fold fanoms of which three and a half go to the Rupee, and the circumstance of our present coins being known by the name of new fanoms.

A great portion of the ancient State Records were destroyed during the invasion of Tippu, but I enclose in a separate sheet a list of the Rajas of Cochin immediately preceding the present sovereign, as far as the available formation reaches.

As requested I beg to forward herewith the Coins now in circulation.

I remain & c.,

(Sd.)

T. GOVINDA MENON,

Diwan.

56. PURCHASE OF SWORDS FOR THE GUARDS AND ESCORTS IN TRAVANCORE

This document throws some light on the equipment used by the Police force in Travancore a century ago.

C. No. 1102

Police- Purchase of swords-1 885 to 1888.

No. 592. Office of the Superintendent of Police,
Trivandrum, 18th August, 1885.

To

The Diwan of Travancore.

Sir,

With reference to your No. 5250/J. 496 of the 17th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the sample swords accompanying that letter one of the kind required for the Police.

The number of swords intended for last year was 200 but as all departments were called upon to make reduction to meet the expenses of the Thula-purushadanam ceremony this number, was reduced to fifty. Swords being required for guards and escorts, I beg to request that at least 200 swords be supplied to us this year of the pattern under notice.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

Superintendent of Police, Travancore.

No. 1551/J.663

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum.

From

The Diwan of Travancore

To

The Superintendent of Police,
Travancore,
Dated 20, April 1887
Despatched.

Reference: Received His letter No. A94 dated 12th February last.

2. Sanction is accorded for the purchase of 100 swords for the present.
3. The Superintendent will report from whom and at what price he proposes to buy them.
4. The purchase of remaining 100 swords may be made next year.

(Sd.)
T. RAMA ROW,
Diwan.

No. 1651/J.708.

Huzur Cutcherry
Trivandrum,
27th April 1887.

To

J. C. Hannyngton Esq.,
British Resident of Travancore.

Sir,

I shall feel obliged by your procuring for His Highness' Government one hundred swords (with scabboard) of the kind forwarded by you as samples with your letters No. 785 and 805 dated 6 and 10th August 1885 respectively. They are for the Police Department to be used by Treasure escorts etc.

(Sd.)
T. RAMA ROW,
Diwan.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following from the Resident in Travancore and Cochin, dated 15th April 1885 No. 43.

From the Military Department, dated 8th May 1885, No. 2478.

From the Inspector General of Police, dated 21st May 1885 No.2776

With reference to your endorsement No. 974 on the enclosed papers, on reference No. 483 of 1885, Political Department, I have the honour to state that 50 swords with scabboards complete can be supplied to the Travancore Government some of the swords are not New, but they are in good order and as good as new the price is Rs. 5-6-0.

Order 25th May 1885 No. 362 (Mis.) communicated to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

(True-Extract)

(Sd.),
M. HAMMIC
For Chief Secretary

The Resident in Travancore and Cochin, Trivandrum.

Resident's Office
Trivandrum
9th June 1885

MEMO

True copy forwarded to the Diwan of Travancore for information with reference to his No. 1560 of 9th April 1885.

(Sd.),
J. C. HANNYNGTON,
Resident.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following from the Resident in Travancore and Cochin, Trivandrum, dated 17th July 1885, No. 85 requesting to send as sample two swords with scabboards.

Order 27th July 1885 No. 496, (Mis.) communicated to the Inspector General of Police for compliance with reference to his letter No. 2776 dated 21st May 1885.

(True Extract)

(Sd.),
M. HAMMICK,
Ag. Under Secretary

To

The Resident in Travancore and Cochin, Trivandrum.

No. 785

Resident's Office,
Trivandrum,
6th August 1885.

MEMO

True copy forwarded for the information of the Diwan of Travancore with reference to his letter No. 2885/1035 dated 16th ultimo.

(Sd.),
J.C. HANNYNGTON,
Resident.

57. CONTROVERSY ABOUT PROCESSION OF IDOL AT VAIKOM TEMPLE

Temple festivals especially the 'Ashtami' Festival at Vaikom temple were occasions requiring tact on the part of Police officials deputed to maintain order. Ferguson, Assistant Superintendent of Police was accused of violating customs about caste pollution and taboos and provoked a quarrel with one of the temple priests. Vaikom was a stronghold of caste and religious orthodoxy and became the location of the famous "Satyagraha" for freedom of passage along temple streets.

No. 2625/J. 1140.

Huzur Cutcherry
Trivandrum
2nd July 1887

To

The Superintendent of Police, Travancore.

Sir,

In returning herewith the original enclosure which accompanied your letter dated 20th December 1886 No. 768 regarding the circumstances connected with the alleged obstruction caused to the procession of the idol at Vicome, I have the honour to enclose for transmission to Mr. Ferguson copy of a 'Kychit' passed by Vathukoduthu Moothathu, the chief party whom that officer complains. The 'Kychit' says that no insult of any kind was offered or intended to the Assistant Superintendent.

I have & c.,
(Sd.),
Dewan.

No. 4387/D.1913.

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum,
8th December 1886.

To

The Superintendent of Police,
Travancore.

Sir,

With reference to the accompanying copy of the Sarvadhikariakar's letter dated 3rd instant and of its enclosures regarding the obstruction caused to the procession of the idol during the recent festival at Vacome, I have the honour to request you will be good enough to enquire and report on the circumstances of the case. Orders should be issued to prevent any hindrance in future to the procession being conducted in accordance with lengstanding precedents.

I have & c.,
(Sd.),
Dewan.

No. 768

Office of the Superintendent of Police,
Camp: Kottayam, 20th December 1886.

From

The Superintendent of Police,
Travancore.

To

The Dewan of Travancore.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.4387/J.1915 of the 8th instant with enclosure, I have the honour to forward a report from the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Kottayam regarding the facts that transferred at the Ashtami festival at Vacome. He points out that he neither approached the idols nor in any way interfered with the procession, but was want only and

publicly insulted by one of the officials attached to the Pagoda, while he was keeping order in the public streets.

2. Mr. Ferguson further states that the petition to His Highness the Maharajah is not sent by the Thanthry Potti who is the chief of the Pagoda Office and as such the person who would naturally complain of any irregularity. Mr. Ferguson further takes exception to the way in which he is spoken of in the petition under reference.

I have & c.,
(Sd.),
Superintendent of Police,
Travancore.

58. PUBLIC SERVANTS-HOLDING PROPRIETORSHIP AND CONTRIBUTING ARTICLES TO THE PUBLIC PRESS

The question of permiting Government servants to establish and own periodical publications like Newspapers, journals, etc. and to contribute articles to their publications was considered by the Travancore Government and certain rules were framed in this matter. This regulation throws interesting light on the attitude of the Government when journalism was still at its early stage of development in this area.

Resolution of the Government of His Highness the Maharajah of Travancore relative to the connection of officers in the service of Government with the Press.

1. No officer in the service of Government is permitted, without the previous sanction in writing of the Government of His Highness the Maharajah to become the proprietor, eihter in whole or in part, of any newspaper· periodical publication, or to edit or manage any newspaper or publication. Such sanction will only be given in the case of newspaper or publications mainly devoted to the discussion of topics not of a political character, such for instance as art, science, or literature. The sanction will be liable to be withdrawn at the discretion of the Government.

2. Officers in the service of Government are not probihited from contributing to the public press, but their position makes it incumbent up them to confine themselves within the limits of temperate and reasonable discussion, and they are prohibited from making public, without the previous sanction of Government, any documents papers, or information of which they may become possessed in their official capacity. In case of a departure from these Rules or if the Government should consider the connection of any officer with the press to be contrary to the public interest, his liberty to contribute will be withdrawn.

3. The Government will decide, in case of doubt, whether any engagements of officers with press are consistent with the discharge of their duties to the Government.

4. The contribution of articles which are scandalous or which reflect upon the Government or which tend to create disaffection and distrust in the minds of the public are strictly prohibited. An officer offends against these Rules if though holding no correspondence direct with the Press, still corresponds with editors of newspapers through other channels, or countenances and encourage relatives or dependants, or servants to carry on such correspondence

59. RECORDS OF THE ZILLA COURT TRIVANDRUM REMOVAL OF THE SAME FROM VALIAKOIKKAL TO THE OLD JAIL

The State Archieves department is of recent origin when compared to other departments. It came into existence in 1962. However this does not mean that prior to that period the State had no record centre of its own. There were record repositories in Travancore and Cochin even during the period of princely rule. This clearly indicates that the rulers were very conscious of keeping the documentary heritage for the posterity.

The records reproduced below throw ample light to understand that a humble beginning was made in 1889 for the centralization of records at Trivandrum. The document dated July 1889 relates to the transfer of records from the Valiyakoyickal Palace which was required for Sanskrit School. The other record pertains to the transfer of High Court records. Further, it is interesting to note that this was formerly the Central Prison of the State of Travancore.

No.218
(Seal)

High Court,
Trivandrum
25th April, 1889

To

The Dewan of Travancore.

Sir,

As requested in your yadasth No. 3720 dated 8th Medom I have the honor to inform you that instructions have been issued to the Trivandrum Zilla Court to transfer the old records of that Court from Valiakoikkal to the Central record room.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedt. Servant
(Sd.)
Vacation (....)

No.259

(Seal)

High Court,
Trivandrnm,
8th May, 1889.

To

The Dewan of Travancore.

Sir,

I am forwarding herewith copy of a communication from the 1st Judge of the ZiIla Court of Trivandrum No. 453 dated 28th Medom last with enclosure. I have the honor to request you will be good enough to ascertain and inform this Court by whose authority the Zilla Court records were removed from their original place of custody to the Huzur Central Record room.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obdt. Servant.
(Sd.)
Vacation (....)

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum,
July, 1889.

To

The Chief Justice & Puisne
Judges of the High Court of Travancore.

Gentlemen,

With reference to my Yadhast No. 3720 dated the 28th Medom and your letter No. 259 dated the 18th May I have the honor to inform you that the (....) ordered to be removed to (....) office (old jail) ,as the Valiakoikkal Maligai was wanted for the Sanskrit School.

2. From a report received from the Dewan Peishcar Trivandrum it appeared that loose bundles of old & wornout cadjans were lying about the place without order or arrangement and apparently without anyone belonging to the Judicial Department being in special charge of the records of that Department.

3. They were therefore removed to the Central record room in the old jail where the record-keeper of the Court may take charge of and keep them in future.

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most Obedt. Servant,
Dewan.

Extract from the Munisiff's letter to the Registrar of the High Court No. 318 dated 5th Mausy 1885

I beg to bring to your notice that last night there was another attempt made to burn down the Court house; but happily only a very small protion of the thatch was burnt as before the flames could spread it was seen by a man from neighbouring shop and extinguished.

The occurrance shows that some body is bent upon the destruction of this Court's records. The court house is a very small low wooden building whose exits are very narrow and therefore in the event of a fire not timely discovered, it is 10 to one that the building and the records will be destroyed without anybody being able to save them.

Extract from a letter addressed to the High Court No. 470 dated 26th February 1890.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter No. 105 dated 22" Instant recommending the new Taluk Cutcherry at Shertallay to be temporarily vacated for the local Munisiff's Court.

I have also drawn the attention of the Superintendent of Police and the District Magistrate in view to trace out the attempted incendiarism reported by the Munisiff's I trust that the Munisiff's own resources will be employed to the fullest extent in protecting the building where the records are now lodged.

2. I find, from the Inspector's Diary that the cases ordered by the District Magistrate to be restored to the Police file are cases in which serious offences such as incendiarism, murder etc., remain undetected although they were once

investigated and certain persons charged by the Police who were acquitted by the Courts.

3. The acquittal of these persons by the Court should not be construed as meaning that no offence was committed or that there are not others who are guilty of the offence.

4. No offence should, in the interests of the general public, be allowed, if possible, to go undetected and in order to attain that end the only course open is to keep such cases on the Police Register and to re-investigate them with a view to find out and bring the real offenders to justice. It was with this view that the cases in question have been ordered by the District Magistrate, Kottayam, to be re-investigated. His order should therefore be acted upon by the Police.

I have etc.,

(Sd.)
T. RAMA ROW,
Dewan.

Letter from the High Court No. 105 dated 22nd February 1890

In forwarding herewith copy of a letter received from the Munisiff of Shertallay, we have the honour to recommend that early arrangements may be made for the location of the Munisiff's Court in the place indicated by the Munisiff as a temporary measure. It will be necessary to provide the Court with a tiled building as early as practicable.

We have etc.,
(Sd.)
A. KRISHNASWAMY RAO,
Chief Justice.

and

(Sd.)
Puisne Judges.

60. MUNISIFF'S COURT, SHERTALLAI-ATTEMPT TO SET IT ON FIRE

This is an important document illustrating the application of legal principle in prosecution of criminal cases. An attempt was made to set fire to the building housing the Munisiff Court at Shertallai- Prosecution was launched against the alleged arsonists. The Sessions Court Dismissed the case and acquitted the accused. However the District Magistrate wanted to restore the case in the police register for further action. The Dewan upheld this view in view of the repeated attempts to fire to the building of the Munisiff Court'.

Travancore Police,
Diary of Inspector N. Paramu Pillay,
Shertallay District for 23-7-65.

Dated: 24-7-65/6-3-90.

Camp,
Kuttavali

Last night Head Constable No. 1159 slept in the Station.

This morning visited the injured in the hospital. He is still in a bad state. Went to Muttathagady, a Chova Woman and a Chovan by name Ramen were asked; they saw that the accused was seen stabbing the injured with a peecha knife. Took notes of their evidence. Returned to the Cashba station. Did office work. Checked station house reports.

In the evening left for kutavali temple for oolsvam, Bendobest petitions were received from the Devaswom people that they expect a breach of the peace. Reached at about 7 p.m.

(Sd.)
N. PARAMU PILLAI,
Inspector of Police.

P.S.

The accused in the arson case have been acquitted by the Sessions Court. In cases of the kind there can be no other evidence than the testimony of witness and if the Sessions Court is not to believe that, no case of arson could be detected and convicted.

(Initialled)

In pursuance of the Superintendent's order at the instance of Government and the Kottayam District Magistrate further enquiries must be made.

(Initialled) K.P.P.

Sir,

Order shall be oblied and enquiries made to find out the perpetrators of these fires; but I beg for definite orders whether the case No. 40 one detected and charged by the Police and committed to the Sessions Court by the 2nd class Magistrate should be restored to the Police file as pending detection. I must then bring the case back in my monthly extracts and statements. The District Magistrate in his communication says that it is necessary that the case should be restored to the Police register. The Government draw the attention of the Superintendent of Police to this part of the communication and His Honour the superintendent orders to me all efforts to detect the perpetrators of these fires. If cases acquitted by the Sessions Court should all be restored to the Police register there will be no end whatever. There us now case No. 48 offence under Section 304- T.P.C. acquitted by the Sessions Court and several other cases-I must obey orders and I am ready to do so, but I beg to inform your Honour of the same and beg for definite orders.

27-8-'65 (Initialled)
Inspector.

I do not know how the case can be restored to the register. The defendants in the case were acquited by the Session Court and they can never be tried again for the same offence. While so, why they should be treated as defendants restoring the case to the register is not clear. If it be found on enquiry here-after that some others it was that committed the crime they cannot be made defendants

in this case; but a separate case will have to be registered against them. Under these circumstances the only means left is to try to detect the real offenders presuming that those acquitted are not such. Solicit definite orders on the subject.

No. 2498/J. *820.*

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum,
12th June 1890.

To

The Superintendent of Police,

Travancore.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter No. 174 dated 28th Ultimo and its enclosure.

61. CHURCH-DRAFT CIRCULAR REGARDING ITS ERECTION

From time immemorial, there was confluence of religions in this area. Many thousands of places of worship were constructed in all parts of Travancore. This document illuminates the liberal and considerate policies of the Royal Government of Travancore towards applicants for permission to construct places of worship.

Huxur Cutchery,
Trivandrum,
July, 1889.

CIRCULAR

With reference to para 4 of the Royal Proclamation dated 23rd Thye, 1004 M.E. republished in the Government Gazette of 6th May 1890/25th Chittra 1065 requiring that permission should be obtained for the erection of churches, chapels, Mosques, temples and other places of worship, the attention of the Division Peishcars is invited to the necessity for promptly conducting enquiries on applications made to them. They are requested to issue strict orders to all Tahsildars to use the utmost expedition in concluding the enquiries and submitting their reports. They should be required to do this within a certain number of days to be fixed when each application is referred to the subordinate officer and completion of enquiries should be insisted upon within this period. Care should be taken that no frivalons objections are raised wherever, the application can be fairly granted.

Whatever of such enquiries may be now pending in each Division should, he looked into at once and efficient arrangements made for their immediate disposal.

When moving on circuit, the Division Peishcars will be good enough to personally enquire into such matters and insisit on speedy disposals.

Diwan

62. THE MALAYALI MEMORIAL

No Malayali could think of this important land-mark in the history of Kerala without a feeling of emotion. It was signed by 10,037 parents of various communities. They demanded fair share in Governmental service:

To

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF TRAVANCORE,
G.C.S.I. AND C. AND C. AND C. AND C.,
TRIVANDRUM

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

I beg, to forward for your Highness' favourable and sympathetic consideration a Memorial signed by more than ten thousand of your Highness subjects of different castes, creeds and calling. Nambudiris, Nairs and Tiers, Syrian and Native Christians and East Indians or Eurasians, Landlords Merchants and Officials. In the printed list of important signatures appended to the memorial, Your Highness will find the names of several officials in the various departments of the State, of several leading members of the bar at Trivandrum, Alleppey, Quilon and Parur, of some of the richest landlords belonging to such communities as the Nair, the Nanjinad Sudra and the Syrian of representatives of several well-known houses, of many Christian Kathanars and Purohitars and of about fifty graduates.

The Memorial was printed both in English and Malayalam towards the close of February last and is therefore subject to a few alterations of a note very material character, which subsequent official changes in Travancore and the publication of University results have necessitated. I am sorry that though

it was ready for presentation in June last, the Memorial was unavoidably detained at Trivandrum so long.

I beg to subscribe myself Your Highness'
Most obedient and loyal subject

THE LUZ, MYLAPORE,
11th January 1891.

K. P. SANKARA MENON B.A. & B.L.
Vakil High Court, Madras.

The following is the Memorial presented to His Highness the Maharajah.

To

HIS HIGHNESS SRI PADMANABHA DASA VANCHI BALA RAMA VARMA KULASAKHARA KIRREETAPATI MANNAY SULTAN MAHARAJA RAMA RAJA BAHADUR SHAMSHEER JUNG, G.C.S.I.,

Maharaja of Travancore,
& C. & C. & C. & C.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

We the undersigned subject of your Highness, most respectfully beg to submit the following memorial to your Highness, with the servant hope that your Highness will accord to it that attention and consideration which the gravity of the subject demands at the hands of your Highness and of Your Highness' Government.

The grievance which affects the most important classes of your Highness' subjects in Travancore and which we, as some members thereof, beg leave to press on your Highness' kind attention is the denial to them of a fair share in the Government of their country and their systematic exclusion from the higher grades of its service.

According to the latest Census Report, the population of Travancore consists of 1,755,610 Hindus, 498,542 Christians, 146,909 Mohamodans and 97 Jews or a total of 2,401,158 Excluding

(a) the Europeans who are not subjects of your Highness.

(b) the Mohamodans among whom education is at a very low ebb, and

(c) the Jews who form but a very insignificant portion, the population of the State may be divided for the purposes of this memorial, into the following classes:-

I. Malayali Hindus meaning thereby all Hindus who follow the Marumakatayam system of inheritance or a mixed system of Makkatayam and Marumakkatayam and whose Kudumi or tuft of hair is in the front. They, number 1,436,835 forming 59.84 per cent of the total population and are composed chiefly of (a) the Malayali Sudars, 464,239 (b) the Nanjanad Sudras, 20,000* and (c) the Elavars or Tiers, 387,176.

2. Foreign Hindus including the foreigners who have settled and domiciled in Travancore. These number 318,775 forming 13.14 per cent of the population and are composed chiefly of (a) the Foreign Brahmins, 25,224 (b) the Vellalars, 21,109 and (c) the Pandi Sudras, 4,454.

3. Christians comprising (a) the Syrian and Native Christians and the Eruasians and East Indians. They number 498,542 forming 20.76 per cent of the population and are composed of 287,409 Syrians, 153,815 Catholics, 57,318 Protestants."

According to the authority quoted above, there is a total number of 16,167 appointments of all sorts in the State about 13,000 of which are petty appointments of Rs. 1, 2, 5 or less than 10 per mensem. Of this number, 11,668 are held by Malayali Hindus nearly 10,000 of whom are employed mostly in the lower ranks of the Police and the Nair Brigade and in the numberous Devaswom institutions in the land; 3,185 are held by Foreign Hindus only about one-half of which are petty appointments carrying below Rs. 10 a month and 1,029 by Christians nearly three-fourths of which come under the same category. In other words, or while out of a total Malayali Hindu population of 1,461,835 only 11.668 per cent hold Government

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* This number is but approximate as the Census Report has classified then separately.

appointments and out of a total Christian population. 79 or 498.542 only 1029 or .26 per cent, out of 318,775 Foreign Hindus, 31.85 per cent are employed in the State. But, since the publication of the Census Report, nearly ten years have elapsed, and during this period, the number of appointments in the country has increased greatly. The best authority, therefore, on the subject though it does not include appointments of less than Rs. 10 a month, is the table published by the Diwan in the Travancore Almance for 1889. According to this authority, there are 3,407 appointments in the State carrying with them salaries of Rs. 10 per mensem and upwards and they are thus distributed:-

1,650 Malayali Hindus	(.11 per cent of their population)		
1,444 Foreign Hindus	(.45	,,	,,)
272 Christians	(.06	,,	,,)

This classification, your Highness will observe, shows the extent to which the Foreing Hindus are represented in the service of Government and the comparatively small share that the truly native portion of the population is forced to be contented with. Out of 1,650 appointments held by Malayali Hindus 1,575 or shared by Malayali Sudras, 75 by Nanjinad Sudras and not a single appointment by the Tiers though they form nearly one-sixth of the total population of the State; and, while among 1,444 appointments held by Foreign Hindus, so many as 1,000 are monopolised by Brahmins, out of 272 held by Christians, 76 alone are held by that ancient community of Syrians. Though this classification includes several low paid appointments for which foreigners are not generally obtained and native must of necessity be admitted, the high percentage of Foreign Hindus is the direct result of the introduction of their relations and caste-men by the foreign administrators of Travancore. A classification on the same lines of the higher appointments in the State will alone show in the best possible light the position occupied by the various classes in the service of Government. In a country where the highest salary drawn by any officer is Rs. 2,000 a month, all those appointments carrying

* This figure does not include either the Syro-Romans or protestants as they are classed with Catholics and protestants.

salary of Rs. 50 and upwards may, perhaps, fairly be regarded as the high appointments. Starting with this basis, it is found that there are 246 appointments in the State excluding 33 which are held by Europeans. Of these, 61are held by Malayali Hindus, 120 by Foreign Hindus and 65 by Christians. In other words, while the natives of the state, Malayali Hindus or Christians as the case may be, each come in only for nearly a fourth of the total number of higher appointments, the foreigners monopolise nearly one half. The following table will show at one glance the exact state of matters.

Class	*Population*	*No. of appointments*	*Proportion to population*
Malayali Hindu	1,486,835	61	1 man in 23,554 men
Foreign Hindus	318,775	120	1 man in 2,656 men
Christians	498,542	65	1 man in 7,669 men

Taking the important sections of these principal classes into consideration, it is found that 56 appointments are held by Malayali Sudras, 5 by Nanjanad Sudras, none by Tiers, 86 by Foreign Brahmins, 34 by Foreign Sudras and 16 by Syrian Christians and 49 by other Christians. Adopting a tabular classification similar to the above, the figures stand thus:-

Class	*Populations*	*No. of appointments*	*Proportion to population*
Malayali Sudras	464,239	56	1 man in 8,290 men
Nanjanad Sudras	20,000	5	1 man in 4,000 men
Tiers	387,176	0	0 man in 387,176 men
Foreign Brahmins	25,224	86	1 man in 293 men
Foreign Sudras	25,563	34	1 man in 751 men
Syrian Christians	287,409	16	1 man in 17,963 men
Other Christians	211,133	49	1 man in 4,308 men

The above table shows in the strongest light possible the injustice done to the natives of the country. The greatest number of higher appointments is held by foreigners and even among them the number held by Brahmins is more than double that held by the Sudras. While 293 Foreign Brahmins return one man from among them to fill the higher grades of the service, more than 26 itmes the number are necessary to return a Malayali Sudra and 61 times the number to return a Syrian Christian. Worse than all, there is not a single representative of the Tiya community holding any Government appointment on Rs. 5 or upwards a month in the State, though intelligent and educated men are not wanting among them; whereas, several of their castemen in Malabar have been advanced to some of the highest offices of the Uncovenanted Civil Service open to natives of India. On an analysis of these appointments it is found that out of the 61 Malayalai Hindus, who draw Rs. 50 and upwards a month, one receives Rs. 500, one Rs. 400, five between Rs. 200 & 300, twelve between 150 & 200, eithteen between Rs. 160 & 150, and twenty-four between Rs. 50 & 100. There is not a single Malayali Hindu who drawn anything more than Rs. 500 per mensem; nor more than two receiving above Rs. 300. But, among Foreign Brahmins one draws Rs. 2,000 a month, one Rs. 1,200, one Rs. 1,000, one between Rs. 700 & 800, one between Rs. 600 & 700, two between Rs. 500 & 600, two between Rs. 400 & 500, two between Rs. 300 & 400, five between Rs. 200 & 300, eight between Rs. 150 & 200, twenty-six between Rs. 100 & 150 and thirty-six between Rs. 50 & 100. The following table presents these facts very clearly:-

Salary	Class and population		
	Malayali Hindus (1,436,835)	Foreign Brahmins (28,224)	Syrian Christians (287,409)
Rs. 2000	..	1	..
Rs. 1200	..	1	..
Rs. 1000	..	1	..
Rs. 700	..	1	..
Rs. 600	..	2	..
Rs. 500	1	2	..
Rs. 400	1	1	..
Between Rs. 300 & 400	1	2	1
Between Rs. 200 & 300	3	5	2
,, Rs. 150 & 200	12	8	1
,, Rs. 100 & 150	18	26	2
,, Rs. 50 & 100	24	37	10

Among the Christian natives of the State, more than one-half are Syrians who from their long residence in the country which began in the early part of the christian era and the complete identification of their interests with those of Travancore, have become emerged in the truly native portion of the population, 'but this ancient and interesting community is represented only by sixteen of their number in the higher services, the highest salary drawn by anyone of them being only Rs. 300 a month. As a necessary consequence of this uneven distribution, it is found of the Foreign Brahmins in the higher services that while the aggregate salaries/alone are enough to give annually Rs. 6-12 as 10 p to each and everyone of their community in the country, each Malayali Sudra on a similar distribution gets only 2 as -8p and each Christian 2 as-10P. The Brahmin gets thirty-eight times as great as the Malayalai Sudra or Christian.

An examination of the individual departments in the State will show more clearly still the injustice done to the natives of the country, In the Huzoor Office which contains 21 appointments carrying salaries ranging between Rs. 2,000 & 50.6 alone are held by Malayali Sudras, the best of which carries with it only a salary of Rs. 300 and 3 by Christians the highest of which secures Rs. 700, while 8 are held by Foreign Brahmins, the most important official among whom draws Rupees 2,000. In the Revenue Department which contains 37 appointments of the same nature, 14 are held by Malayali Sudras and 3 by Christians, the highest officials among whom get only between Rs. 200 & 300 and between Rs. 50 & 100 respectively; but 14 are held by Foreign Brahmins the highest functionary among whom draws between Rs. 600 & 700. Out of 8 District Officers who draw salaries ranging between Rs. 700 & 150, one alone is held by a Malayali Sudra drawing Rs. 300 one by a Nanjinad Sudra drawing Rs. 150 and not one is held by a Christian. Out of four Diwan Peishcars who discharge the same functions in Travancore that Collectors and District Magistrates do in the Madras presidency, there is not a single Malayali Hindu or Christian, all of them being foreign Hindus. Out of 32 Tahasildars in the State, 13 alone are held by Malayali Hindus and not one is held by a Christian, while 14 are held by Foreign Brahmins. In the Collectorate of Malabar, out of 9 Tahsildars, 5 are Nairs or Tiers and one is a Christian and only two are Brahmins and in the sister State of Cochin, 7 out of the 8 Tahasildars are Nairs. In the Judicial line there are 40 appointments, 10 of which are held by Malayali Sudras, 2 by Nanjinad Sudras and 9 by Christians, the highest salary drawn by any Malayali Sudra being Rs. 500 and by any Christian between Rs. 200 & 300; Whereas, there are 12 foreign Brahmins, one of whom gets Rs. 1,200 and another Rs. 700. In the province of Malabar where there are 4 Subordinate Judges and 18 District Munisiffs, 2 of the former are Nairs or Tiers, and one a Eurasian, and 9 of the latter are Nairs and 3 are Christians. Out of the 17 Sub-Magistrates in Travancore, 3 alone are Malayali Hindus and 6 are Christian; while in Malabar, out of 13 Sub-Magistrates, 10 are either Nairs or Tiers. In the Registration Department in Travancore, there are 11. appointments carrying a salary of Rs. 50 and upwards, 3 of which alone are held by Malayali Sudras, all drawing between

Rs. 50 & 100 a month and none by Christians; but 7 are held by Foreign Brahmins one of them getting between Rs. 300 & 400 and one between Rs. 100 & 150. In Malabar, out of the 39 Sub-Registrars, 26 are either Nairs or Tiers and 4 are Christians. Again, in the Settlement Department, there are 11 appointments of the same nature and 3 alone are held by Malayali Sudras, one drawing between Rs. 100 & 150 and two between Rs. 50 and 100 and none by Christians; but 7 are held by foreign Brahmins, one of whom draws Rs, 1.000 and one between Rs. 200 and 300.

The facts and figures submitted for your Highness' consideration in the above paragraphs will demonstrate very clearly that in the public service of Travancore, while the Foreign Brahmin element greatly preponderates, the natives of the country, chief among whom arc the Malayali Hindus and Christians, are meagrely represented. The difference will be the more clear when the condition of Travancore is contrasted with that of Malabar. Malabar and Travancore are almost equal in area and population. They are inhabited by the same classes of people and there is little or no difference as to the extent to which education has spread in the respective countries. While the one has continued to remain entirely under its own ruler from time immemorial the other has been under English control for nearly the last eighty years. The following table will illustrate the similarity best:-

Particulars		Travancore	Malabar
Area	:	6730 sq. miles	5765 sq. miles
Total population	:	2,401,158	2,365,035
Population of Hindus	:	1,755,610	1,669,271
Population Christian	:	498,542	43,196
Population Brahmins	:	37,138	47,683
Population Nairs and Tiers	:	871,415	920,400
Number of Malayali Hindu Graduates	:	50	57
Proportion of pupils to population	:	I in 46	1 in 48

As the Christian population in Travancore is about 12 times as great as that in Malabar, it is not perhaps fair to draw and inference from their present condition in the respective places. Nevertheless it is a fact that the comparatively meagre population of Christians in Malabar has met with greater encouragement than that in Travancore. This may be partly explained by the fact that Malabar is under a Christian Government and that brethren in Travancore have long been suffering from social and religious disabilities. Yet, it cannot be denied that there are several Departments in Travancore the doors of which could be left freely open to the Christians, and the comparatively low position occupied by them at present is to a great extent owing to the neglect of their interest by the ruling authorities. But the Nair and Tier population in the respective countries is almost equal; and we may fairly institute a comparison between them whatever such comparison is possible. The Revenue and Judicial lines are the most important in the administrative machinery of any country and the following tables will show clearly how matters stand in Travancore and Malabar with respect to these:-

A. Revenue and Magisterial

MALABAR

Name of appointments	No. of appointments	No. held by Nairs and Tiers
Collector	1	,,
Sub-Collector	1	No. held by Nairs or Tiers
Head Asst. Collector	I	,,
Spl. Asst. Collector	I	,,
Dy. Collector	5	3*
Tahsildars	9	5
Sub-Magistrates	13	10

* Two are employed in Tamil District

TRAVANCORE

Name of appointments	No. of appointments	No. held by Malayali Sudras
Dewan	I	"
Dewan Peishcars	4	"
Asst. Peishcars	4	2
Dy. Peishcars	2	2
Tahsildars	32	11
Sub-Magistrates	17	3

B. Judicial

MALABAR

Name of appointments	No. of appointments	No. held by Nairs or Tiers
District Judges	2	"
Sub-Judges	3	3*
Munsiffs	18	9

TRAVANCORE

Name of appointments	No. of appointments	No. held by Malayali Sudras
High Court Judges	4	"
Sub-Judges	7	2
Munsiffs	9	7

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* One is employed in a Tamil District

From the above tabular statements, your Highness will observe that there are 31 Gazetted appointments in the Revenue and Magisterial line in Malabar and 23 in the Judicial, out of which four and two respectively are reserved for members of the Civil Service. Excluding these, there are 27 appointments in the Revenue line, 18 of which or 66.6 per cent are held by Nairs or Tiers and 21 in the Judicial, out of which 12 or 57.8 per cent are held by them. On the other hand, in Travancore there is not a single appointment in the Revenue or Judicial line which is reserved for any particular class of people, excepting the Second Judgeship of the High Court; and yet, in the Revenue line out of 60 of the highest appointments, only 17 or 28.6 per cent are held by Malayali Sudras and in the Judicial, 9 out of 30 or only 30 per cent The fact that the right hand columns in the above tables in respect both to Travancore and Malabar are blank, is opt to deceive some into the belief that in the Native State as well as in the British District, there are certain appointments which are reserved for other than natives of the country. Such an undesirable state of things has come to pass notwithstanding that Travancore has been ruled from time immemorial by or own native Rajahs. In Travancore, on the Revenue side the Dewan is not a Malayali Sudra nor is there a single Malayali Sudra among the Dewan Peishcars; and on the judicial side, there is none in the highest Tribunal of Justice. In point of education, Travancore has advanced pari passu with Malabar. May, the first graduate from the Malabar coast, was a Malayali Sudra from Travancore who took his degree more than a quarter of a country ago and it was not till after the expiry of five years that Malabar sent forth her first representative. The percentage of educated persons in Travancore to population is 11.08 among males and .46 among females as against 9.4 and .16 in the Madras Presidency and the greatest number among these are Malayali Sudras. Yet, the Malayali Sudras in Travancore under their own Government ruled over by members of their own nationality, are in a far worse position at present than their brethren in Malabar under on alien Government. Their condition is all the more deplorable whom it is remembered by Your Highness that they were from time immemorial till within the last few years, the chief administrators of the State. History records a distinguished line of Dewans who had sprung from the Nair class, and who were renowned

as much for their administrative capabilities as for their deep-seated devotion to the throne. Not only the Dewanship but almost all the higher appointments were also held by them. But, today Travancore tells a different tale. The only cause, if any, which can sufficiently account for this change must be that they have been slow to take advantage of English education which has made a notable advance in all parts of India. But your Highness will perceive that as regards primary education the Malayali Sudras are the most forward of your Highness' subjects and their anxiety to be profited by it is evinced by the fact that the number of Malayali Sudra Pupils in the Travancore schools increased during the last two years by nearly one-third and one-fifth the number in the previous years, whereas the progress made by the best among the other classes, is only one fourth and one-tenth respectively. And, as regards higher education, the number of Masters of Arts, Bachelors of Laws, and Bachelors of Arts now found among the Malayali Sudras is an adequate proof of their advancements. But, inspite of their having kept abreast of the times, they occupy only that lowest rungs of the official ladder. The cause of this, your Highness will find is not far to seek. A reference to the list of Travancore Dewans shows that this country which used from time immemorial to be administered by a number of native Prime Ministers, was ruled from 1817 to 1872 for about half-a-century, by a series of foreign Dewans. Regularly and Systematically, these Dewans without exception not only introduced their relations, castemen and friends into the State but tried their best to oust the Nairs and prevent them from filling any of the higher appointments. The pernicious effect of this policy is well illustrated by the gradual way in which all the Malayali Sudras were ousted from the offices of Dewan Peishcar which from the stepping stone to the Prime Ministership and all of which were held by them till so late as thirty years ago. In 1860, there were only two Dewan Peishcars in the State and both were Malayali Sudras; in 1867,3 out of the 4 were Malayali Sudras; in 1872, 2 out of the 3; from 1874 to 1877,2 out of the 4; in 1878,1 out of the 3; from 1879 to 1882 none out of the 4; in 1885, 1 out of the 4; and, at the present moment not one of the Dewan Peishcars is a Malayali Sudra. The policy thus inaugurated by foreign Dewans to the detriment of the natives of the State is, we are sorry to submit, being even now followed. Able and educated Malayali Sudras are denied admission to the Huzoor and Revenue offices and the interests of foreigners, especially the

relatives and castemen of officers in power are carefully promoted. Native graduates have met with little or no encouragement. Of the 135 Travancore graduates, 50 are Malayali Hindus and 18 of them are still left unemployed; and the few fact that the Dewan has admitted into Government service are shelved in the Educational Department where their sphere of distinction is very limited, and among Syrian Christians only 11 out of the 35 have been employed in the State. But of the 42 foreign Brahmin graduaes, 32 are in the service of Government, mostly in the Revenue and Judicial branches of the administration. We, by no means, urge that your Highness' Government is bound to entertain in the service all the Travancore graduates turned out anually by the University. But, as between foreign Brahmins on the one hand and Malayali Hindus and Syrian Christians on the other, the latter have certainly priority of right in the State and especially so, when poor and unassisted they have to struggle against great odds in the matter of education, while the Foreign Brahmins are able to obtain it for more easily owing to their being fed gratuitously at the Ootupuras or feeding houses and owing to the numerous gifts and donations from the State and other sources of which they are the happy recipients. Despite these misadvantages, your Highness' subjects have shown themselves to be amongst the most forward on embrace English Education and when after all their labour, they are denied that encouragement and support from your Highness' Government which they have a right to expect, they may be foreign for their deep and painful despondency.

Attached to the soil and weighed down by the toil of cultivation, the Malayali Hindus remain at present a comparatively poverty-stricken people, and not having realised the importance of commerce or the value of technical instruction, they have not yet risen above the agricultural level; and their poverty, their peculiar system of inheritance and the rigorous exactions of that Travancorean system of Conacre, the Viruthi, have combined to keep them in their present state by rendering them unable even to leave their own country in quest of occupation in foreign lands. Neglected in their mother land they are also severely handicapped in other lands for the reason that unlike Travancore other Native States and the British Government prefer their own native subjects to foreigners. In illustration of this fact, it is worthy of observation that out of your Highness' subjects applied for a vaccant place in Hyderabad an the received an endorsement in reply that the appointment could not be

given to him as he was not a native of that State. On another occasion, another subject of your Highness was an applicant for a place under the British Government and the reply he received was that the statute (33 Vic :Ch.3) allowed Government to confer the appointment only on a natural born subject of her Majesty, and that even if the statute could be construed to include subjects of Native States the Government would not give the place to the applicant unless there were none from British territory to whom preference ought to be given. It is the sincere wish of your Highness' memoralists that your Highness will accord to your Highness' subjects that support which other Governments give to their own subjects.

Your Highness is aware that in British India, the complaint is often made that the natives are not fairly treated in the matter of Government patronage. There is certainly some meaning in the attitude of Englishmen who are practically the conquerors of India. Yet, the Government of India have shown themselves to be extremely solicitous of the welfare of the natives. From time to time several statues have been passed to enable the natives to obtain a greater share in the Government of their country. Statutes 21 and 22 Vict: Chap. 3 and the rules framed under these statutes show that the British Government, though an alien Government, was aware of and appreciated rigthly the necessity for the appointment of more natives in the service of the State. In 1879, instructions were issued by the Government of India and the Secretary of State with the view of giving more complete effect to the orders of Her Majesty's government that natives of India should be appointed to an increasing number of higher offices. The practical effect of these orders contained in the Government of India Circular of the 18th April 1879 and in the Despatches of the Secretary of State to the Governments of Madras and Bombay, dated 10th July 1879, is that all appointments in the Executive and Judicial services carrying a salary of Rs. 200 a month and upwards should be given only to persons who are natives of India. In 1886, a commission styled the Public Service Commission was appointed to "devise a scheme which any reasonably be hoped to possess the necessary elements of finality and to do full justice to the claims of natives of India to higher and more extensive employment in the public service"; and the term "Native of India" used here is defined under the Statute of 33 Vic: Chap. 3 as including "any person born and domiciled within the dominion of Her Majesty in India of parents habitually resident in India

and not established there for temporary purposes only." These facts are enough to show the extreme solicitude of the British Government for the welfare of the vast population under their care, though they, as conquerors of India, are in complete possession of the land. Travancore certainly cannot with any amount of truth be said to have been conquered by the foreign Brahmins; and they are in no way entitled to play the Englishman in this State. They live and thrive here comfortably owing to the numerous State charities offered to them and the enormous State patronage to which they have not a particle of right in preference to natives. Your Highness' Government have from time to time copied with advantage several British laws and Regulations in the State and your Highness' memorialists wish that in this instance more than in any other, your Highness' Government would adopt the policy and action of the paramount power. As the Malayali Sudras are the most loyal portion of Your Highness' subjects, as they are in point of intelligence, general culture and attainments not behind any other class in the country, as they were from the earliest times till within the last few years the ruling race in the land, and as it is they that mainly contribute to the resources of the State more than one-fourth of which is derived from land revenue, their claims on your Highness' Government are far stronger than those of any other class in the country. But, even if in point of education they are comparatively backward, they as the real natives of the soil, deserve the special support of your Highness' Government. The Mohamedans in British India, form but 15 per cent of the whole population and are very low in the ladder of civilization; yet, in consideration of their past political power in the country and actuated by a sense of fairness, the Government of India have accorded to them certain special prevelegs. Guided by a similar spirit, some of the District Officers in the Presidency of Madras reject applications for appointment in their own offices from Brahmins. Here again, the example set by the British Government is worthy of initation.

The above short account of the present condition of the most importants of your Highness' subjects is, we believe, sufficient to convince your Highnes of the serious nature of their complaint and of the necessity on your Highness, part to raise your benevolent and in their support. The continuance of the present policy of the State will not merely result in course of time in a more and more unequal distribution of State patronage among your Highness' subjects but will hasten their material and political degeneration. During the past seventy

years, Travancore has been continuously drained of its resources by a number of foreign officials established therefore temporary purposes only, who have drawn considerable sums of money in the shape of salaries, pensions, gratuities &c. The wealth that they have carried and are still carrying out of the country is nonsense; and it has not been possible for the people, into replace it in any way. The great body of Malayali Hindus and Christian in Travancore pursue agriculture as their profession. They have learnt to look upon English Education only as a means of securing Government employment and the few agriculturists who have conducted their sons or nephews have done so only with the object of seeing them fill high and responsible situations under government. The majority of the Malayali graduates in Travancore has been educated by their relations' in the public service and the discouragement of them by Government will certainly tend to withhold even these few land-holders from imparting higher education to the members of their family. In Travancore, the State of society has not advanced far enough to make the people value education for its own sake. The increase of school-fees in the once Free School at Trivandrum has already told heavily on the native population. While the income they derive from land has retained stationary, they have to spend more money in the shape of tax and school fees for their children and any discouragement on the part of your Highness' Government at such a juncture must entail their abandonment at an education which under a less oppressive policy, they would assuredly cultivate and impart, courting present sacrifice in view of future comfortable as ever; vast number of them have no taxes to pay, they are fed gratuitously at the Choultries* and the increase of school fees means imply a little more exertion on their part to obtain more gifts and donations from the State and people as large. In these circumstances, it behaves your Highness as one who takes a deep interest in you Highness' subjects to save them from that political and material degeneration towards which they are ineviataly drifting. Though it is perhaps too late now to repair the injury done in the past, we pray that your Highness will take such steps as may deem fit for the prevention of the perpetration of similar evils in the future. Though it is not their provinces to point out the way in which provision may be made for the future, your

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* "It may be remarked that 75 per cent of the people fed at these charitable institutions come from the southern Provinces of the Madras Presidency and from Malabar and form a kind of migratory population." Vide Manual of the Administration of the Madras Presidency, Vol. II, Page: 291.

Highness memorialists beg to be excused if they suggest the advisability of passing rules like those contained in the Statute at 1870 referred to above, defining the term "Native of Travancore" and like those in the Home Resolution of 1879 also referred to above, restricting the giving of appointments as much as possible to none but natives irrespective of class, caste or creed. This will enable more subjects of your Highness to serve the State and remove the stigma of an uneven' distribution of appointment; and the future administrators of the country will be bound to give the natives preference over foreigners. The passing of these rules and the rigorous enforcement of them beginning from the immediate present will alone save your Highness' subjects from the degraduation and degeneration with which they are threatened and secure a chance or the natives of the country, at least in the for future, to regain their former position and status in the land.

We beg to subscribe ourselves
Your Highness' most loyal and dutiful Subject,

K. P. SANKARA MENON B.A., & B.L.
AND
TEN THOUSAND
AND
THIRTY-SEVEN
Others

63. THE MALAYALI MEMORIAL AND AFTER

On submission of the 'Malayali Memorial' to Sri Moolam Tirunal Maharaja of Travancore, the Memorialists were ordered by the Maharaja that a deputation consisting of six members from the signatories may present a Memorandum to the Diwan embodying the grievances contained in the Memorial. As some changes had been effected in the Memorial the full text of the Memorandum is reproduced here.

MEMORANDUM

The prayer of the memorialists is that native of Travancore of whatever class, caste or creed, may be freely and impartially to offices in the State the duties of which they may be qualified by their education, ability and integrity to discharge.

2. In order to give effect to this prayer, it is essential to define the term "Native of Travancore". This has been the most important, difficult and controversial portion of the whole subject. For, the real question that has to be dealt with is whether in a country like Travancore, with a population divided into a number of deeply marked, mutually excluding classes and castes, some measure which will ensure, in the first place a reasonable distinction between 'native' and 'foreigner' should not be adopted and, in the second place, whether an equitable balance between the several classes of natives themselves, should not be preserved.

3. It is the opinion of a very considerable portion of His Highness' subjects, that a distinction should be drawn between Malayali Hindus and Christians who are the real natives of this country on the one hand and the pure foreigners and domiciled natives on the other. From time immemorial, the pure natives have been always treated as a separate class and special privilege have been accorded to them. Titles of nobility and distinction are held only which are generally by the pure natives, Kanaku, Thampi, and Chembakaramn are titles which are generally bestowd only no Nairs; Tharakan and other sathanoms are conferred on Syrian Christians and Thandans on Elavas Tiyas. Instances

of such distinction may be multiplied. But, for purpose a few will suffice. In the case of Nambudiries or Malayali Brahmins as they are called, in distinction to the foreign or Paradeshi Brahmins, it has been more than once ruled by His Highness the late Maharaja and his illustrious predecessors that they alone among Brahmins are entitled to any privileges in Travancore. That the Nambudiries are treated with special distinction is evident from the fact that they get a higher amount of Dakshina and Danam their brethren from the Eastern coast, for however long a period that latter may have settled in Travancore. In all National mournings only the Malayali Hindus and Christians take part. Another interesting fact which goes to prove, that H.H. the Maharajah's Government have conferred special privileges on the Malayali Hindus is that only Malayali Sudras are allowed to guard the person and property of His Highness. It is indispensible that whenever His Highness proceeds to the temple he should be accompanied and guarded by three Kurups and that His Highness' boat when His Highness goes on tour could be rowed only by Nairs. The Viruthi right, which has now fallen into disrepute, but which was originally a much-coveted honour was conferred only on Nairs and Syrian Christians. All the ceremonies in Travancore temples are and could be performed only by native Brahmins. In the only case in which His Highness the Maharajah, the descendant of a long line of Kshatriya Kings, exercises his right of a appointing a Viceroy both for temporal and spiritual purposes, His Highness chooses a Nair and delegates to him all His Highness's right and privileges. The royalty due to His Gracious Highness the Maharajah in cases of adoption and His Highness's right in matter~ of escheats in respect to Malayali Hindu families, further evidence the special privileges of this class of people.

4. Again, the Malayali Hindus and Christians being the people who pay the largest amount of land revenue and are this more interested in the material welfare of the country, it is nothing but fair just they should have some preference over a class who have comparatively little or no landed interest in the State. It is desirable that, as the chief rate-payers and labourers, the wealth they produce for the maintenance and proper support Government should find its way back to them and not be utilise for the supports of foreigners here and in several cases, of their kinsmen abroad. Out of a permanent land tax of over seventeen

lacks of rupees it may be confidently asserted that the foreign domiciled Brahmin population of Travancore does not contribute any appreciable amount. This principle that the material interest a class has in a country should form one of the chief considerations in giving franchise is as old as Cicero and is accepted by all political thinkers and writers.

5. In all civilized and even half civilized countries distinction between a pure native and a domiciled or naturalized native is preserved. In Switzerland, an alien is not allowed the privilege of holding land. Australia and the United States have imposed prohibiting condition even on foreigners seeking to settle therein. The agitation against Chinese immigrants and the Russian laws against the jews are in point. The history of the legislation on this subject in England is also very instructive in this connection. Even the freest of all nations in the world did not permit foreigners to possess freehold estate in the kingdom of Great Britain till 1870. Hutt's Act 7&8 Vict. Chap.VI, which made considerable improvements on the conditions if aliens provided only for the acquisition of leasehold property for 21 years. Even though 33.34 vict- Chapter V I enabled all aliens to acquire, hold, and dispose of property in the kingdom, of every description except British ships, as fully as natural-born subjects it withheld from them the right to any office or franchise "Unrestricted immigration" says Sir Charles Dilke "may destroy the literature, the tradition, and the nationality itself of the invaded country." In the words of a still greater authority "it is requisite not only that good laws should be passed but they should be passed by the proper persons. The passing of good laws is not enough in such cases. Where the permanent instincts of the people, their distinctive mark of character, the situation and character of the country are concerned it requires not only that these laws it should be good but that they should proceed from a convenial and native source." "Dry simple literature" wrote Sir Thomas Munro "will never improve the character of a nation." To produce this effect it must open the road to wealth and honour and public employment. "In proportion as we exclude them (the natives) from the high offices and a share in the management of public affairs we lessen the interest in their concerns and degrade their character". It is superfluos to multiply authorities for the establishment of the contention, that other thing being equal, preference should in Government employment be given to native over foreigners when that principle has for the

last time been expressly acknowledged by His Highness the Maharaja himself in his endorsement to the memorialists.

6. In framing the definition of the expression 'native' we have also taken into consideration the advisability of settling a suitable position for a class of people who have become chiefly, by mere lapse of time the recognized subjects of His Highness the Maharajah. How so many of these foreign Brahmins have become settled in the country is this explained by Mr. Ramiengar the late Diwan of Travancore. "The result of these combined" he writes "has been that/colonies of Brahmin immigrants, causes chiefly from Palghat, Tanjore, Madura and Tinnevelly have grown up around each chathrum who have gradually taken the place of travelers and got fed without any labour or effort on their part to gain a subsistence...... These persons instead of being so many working useful members of society contributing by their labour to the wealth of the community and earning an independent honest livelihood for themselves, have become a burden on the rest of the society, without self-respect and looked down up on by others." Those foreign Hindus can by no means be classed alike with the pure natives of the country who have made Travancore their ever-lasting home and who have their own historical, political and social traditions and permanent stake in the land. All these difficulties have been realized by the memorialists and attempts have been made to provide for them in the definition they propose of 'native of Travancore'. It will be seen from the definition that the memorialists while justly entitled in other respects for special recognition at the hands of Government have much against their own interest, greatly surrendered their claims with the firmest hope that His Highness the Maharajah will see fit to recognise the distinction himself. Taking everything into consideration we beg to suggest the following as the most equitable and the most generous defintion of the term, 'native'. A 'native' of Travancore' shall mean and include all those who have for no less than three successive generations made Travancore their permanent place of abode and domicile.

7. The fixing of the period to three successive generations will enable Government to see that the man who wants to be native is not a temporary resident or bird of passage but one who has made Travancore his domicile at least from the time of his grandfather. As to the period embarrassed by the

word 'generation', though it is for the courts of the country to fix it, yet we think that it should cover at least thirty years. The word domicile in the same definition has only its ordinary legal sense. In the words of Vice-Chancellor Kindersly in Lord V Colv" in that place is properly the domicile of person in which he has voluntarily fixed the habitation of himself and his family not for a more special and temporary purpose but with an Intention of making it his permanent home." The word 'home' as Jessel M.R. remarked in another case is "suggestive of permanency".

8. Under the present circumstances of the country, we do not venture to asset that all appointments in the State should be given to native and natives only. There are some appointments in the civil service of the country for which special qualifications are required and which qualifications are not always found in the native. In such cases foreigners will have to be imported into the service of the country in its own interest. It may also be necessary in the interests of the State to introduce, in certain exemptional cases, trained expert from outside in order to give a tone to it. When such contingency arises the best course to be adopted is to borrow the services of Government servant from British service. The advantages resulting to the State from the adoption of such a course are immense. But in introducing into the State Officers from outside, whether on account of their being trained experts of because they possess special qualifications, it is desirable that preference ought to be shown too Malayalai Hindus and Christians as they are more likely to be acquinted with the customs and manners of the people of this country.

9. In order to avoid the frequent necessity for borrowing the services of British officials and to give facilities to His Highness' subjects to understand the working of the particular departments in the State, we would respectfully suggest the policy of sending out officers of the State to British India to learn the working of the departments there. Travancore was the first to adopt such a measure and it was copied by Hyderabad. But, while the Travancore Government sent only a few during the last ten years, the Hyderabad Government have sent ten times the number and as many more, the result being that there are very few foreigners employed there. There are certain departments in the State where a special and technical knowledge is necessary

and in order to provide a class of people to take up such appointments in future, encouragement should be given to students who are the real natives of the soil. Something is being done now towards this end but what we humbly suggest is that this matter may receive more careful consideration at the hands of Government.

10. Except such appointments as mentioned in the previous paragraphs or except under certain circumstances mentioned therein, we beg to suggest that no appointment should at any time be given to anybody except a native. It has been already mentioned that the Malayali Hindu and Christian classes are entitled to preference over the foreign subjects of His Highness. If the Government of His gracious Highness is not willing to accept this contention, we, in the next place, beg to submit that as there are people of diverse castes and creeds under 'His Highness' Government, they are bound to recognise the principles of equitable distribution of public appointments, taking care that no one class preponderates over the other, to the prejudice of that other. This principle of Government is not new and competent thinkers from the time of Aristotle downwards have laid down that "the even balance of rall the different orders of the State should as much as possible be preserved by strengthening the weak which is the surest guarantee against the factions and designs of either party". "It must never be forgotten" says Aristotle in Book II of his treatise. "On political Society and Government", that "in a well balanced State, as it is in those in which one element is allowed to preponderate, that the mean between all these extremes is especially to be aimed at, for it invariably happens that where one element alone is regarded and becomes paramount, the whole fabric of Government is destroyed. Certain deviations from what may be strictly the best may occur without much injury, as in the human features departure from strict regularity does not much interfere with the beauty. But, in forms of Government may excessive deviation of disproportionate increase of anyone of its constituent parts will first injure and finally subvert the hole. The lawgiver and Statesman should always therefore have their eyes on these principles and take care that neither party is oppressed by the other. "

11. The acceptance of the above principles is not inconsistent with the principle that just and enlightened sense of expediency in each particular case

having in view the prosperity of the State and the best interests of the community should alone guide the bestowal of appointment.

12. Whenever the Dewan or head of a department wants for special reasons to appoint a foreigner, it is desirable that the sanction of His Highness the Maharaja should be obtained before the appointment is made. This will prevent the appointment of foreigners in the lower grades. What happens now is that with the advent of almost every foreign officer, several of his relatives and castemen, firends and dependants are brought in. These people having got into service, put in claims for promotion and once in service, it is not fair to turn them out or to deny them promotion if they are competent. The rule that in the case of every appointment of a foreigner, special sanctions should be received from His Highness the Maharaja and the particular reasons for the appointment should be stated in writing, will be one of the checks so such promiscuous appointments in future.

13. All that the, memorialists now ask is that all considerations being the same, His Highness' Government, should be pleased to give preference generally over the rest of the Malayalees (Hindus and Christians) and that an even balance should be maintained among the various sections of the community is the bestowal of Government appointments. Subject of course in both cases to educational and other qualifications.

14. In order to procure an efficient Civil Service in the country, it is desirable to divide the whole service into two divisions an upper and a lower one and then to divide each of these divisions into various grades, having regard to some recognized principle and to the necessities of the service.

15. For all public servants in the State a knowledge of Malayalam (the language of the country) must be made absolutely necessary. In the case of foreigners it must be insisted that within a prescribed period subsequent to their appointment they should pass an examination in the Vernacular of the country. They should not be eligible for service unless they furnish evidence that they have attained a prescribed standard of qualification in Malayalam.

16. The language of Mr. Stead with regard to the American Republic may be quoted here with advantage. If the non-English speakers cannot be excluded

they ought only to be admitted on condition of passing an examination say in a couple of years, in the language of the country, which they have made their home. If, after that period of grace has expired, they have not mastered for colloquial purposes the tongue of the people under whose laws they elect to live, it will be well for the Republic if they could be incontinently shipped back to the land whence they came. They certainly should not in any case be naturalised as citizens until they can read the language in which the laws are written and in which justice is administered."

17. For the entertainment of Vakils in the various Courts of the country we submit respectfully that no one except a barrister or graduate of the Madras University, whose optional language was Malayalam should be given licence to plead in any of the Civil Courts unless he is acquited with Malayalam. The passing of a rule of this sort is necessary in the interests of the people so long as the court language is Malayalam. The suggestion is not new. In Hyderabad a similar rule was passed and we hope His Highness' Government will see the benefit that will accrue to the litigating public by passing such a rule.

18. It is also necessary is the interests of the State that public servants should be compelled to retire at the age of 60 unless, a medical Certificate of fitness is produced, as in India generally a man on the wrong side of three score is hardly able to discharge the duties of his office efficiently and vigorously.

19. It is highly desirable that there should be some law to inquire into the conduct of public servants before they are dismissed from the service for offences, in evidence of which no legal proof could be obtained. Not long ago, the names of certain officers in the service of Travancore suddenly disappeared from the Gazette and others were nominated in their stead, no reason being assigned for their removal. We submit that unless provision is made for such contingencies, no other will be secure in his office, public duties will be performed but perfunctorily and the interest of the officers will only be to make as much money they can in as short a time as possible. Though a complaint of this sort could not be made against the present administration, we would respectfully suggest that the laws existing in British India (Act 37 of 1950) on this subject be introduced here. No public servant ought to be dismissed from the service unless he is found guilty by a competent Judicial

tribunal or by a Commissioner or Commissioners, after taking all the evidence for and against him. It is one of the primary principles of law and justice that no man should be condemned unheard.

20. It is equally necessary, we submit, in the interests of public service and for the prestige of Government that no public servant of whatever standing or position should, once he is dismissed after an equiry of the above nature, have any claim on the State for re-appointment. As matters stand at present, there is not a single dismissed official who cannot hope to get into the service again and we are aware of several instances in which public servants who have been charged with serious offences have been reentertained in service.

21. We beg also to suggest that a quarterly Civil list be published and an annual one submitted by the Dewan to H. H. the Maharajah, of all appointments in the State carrying a salary of Rs. 10 and upwards. These returns should show the name, age, place of birth, caste, creed, salary and service of all officers and in the case of foreigners, the special reason which induced Government to appoint them.

22. From their position in society certain classes of His Highness' subjects are now disabled to hold certain appointments. The Revenue Offices at the present day are closed to Christians and other classes, owing to the fact that the supervision of the Hindu Religious and Charitable endowments are attached to them. Both in the interests of the religious institutions and of the classes to whom admission is now denied it will be advisable to separate the supervision of Devaswom and Oottupuras from the duties of the Tahsildar. The late Honourable V. Ramiengar wrote as follows in his Report on the settlement (Travancore:-"In a paper written by me as far back as the 6th of July 1882 on the reform of the Revenue establishment of the State, I referred to the question of relieving the Revenue officers of the management of the Religious and Charitable institutions and placing them under a separate agency. T. Rama Row the experienced peishcar of Kottayam in advocating the abolition of vi rut hi writes "I take opportunity to bring to the notice of Government the it is highly desirable that the supervision of Devaswom and Oottupuras whose management involves an expenditure of upwards of 10 lakhs of Rupees present should be entrusted, with sufficient powers, to Brahmin officers of high standing

and character to secure their efficient management." As to the financial aspect of the question Mr. Ramiengar observed "that the additional expenditure would be repaid many times over by the increased economy resulting from the checking and prevention of abuses under stricter management, and by restricting the Oottupuras to the original objects of ministering to the comforts of weary way-worn Travellers."

23. We beg also to press on the attention of Government that, though the removal of social disabilities for purposes of Government, appointment depends to some extent on the people themselves, it is the duty of the Government not to foster the existing prejudices, of the people in country. The lower classes in this land can never hope to obtain their proper position in society unlesss the Government lend a helping hand to them. Speaking of the Tiya community in particular, it is with considerable pain that we have to state that the Government have not attempted to remove the stumbling blocks in the way of their social and intellectual elevation as a class. Even now they are denied admission to some of the district schools in Travancore, simply because they are unfortunate enough to belong to the Tiya community and such of them as have received a liberal education have no encouragement whatever from the Government of Travancore. The high position occupied by their brethren in Malabar is owing to the liberal policy followed by the British Government and it is hardly necessary to add that for the progress of any community when in a State of infancy, it is highly necessary that the State should afford special protection to their rights. According to John Stuart Mill, "in many parts of the world, people can do nothing for themselves which requires large means and combined action; all such things are left undone unless done by the State. In these cases, the mode in which the Government can most surely demonstrate the sincerity with which it intends the greatest good of its subjects is by doing the things which are made incumbent on it by the helplessness of the public in such manner as shall tend not to increase and perpetuate but to correct that helplessness. A good Government will give all its aid in such a shape as to encourage and nature any rudiments it may find of a spirit of individual exertion. It will be assidous in removing obstacles and discouragement to voluntary enterprise and in giving whatever facilities and whatever direction and guidence may be necessary." The above exhausts a brief account of the objects and

reasons of the propositions we have submitted to the Dewan. It may not be out of place here to refer to an apparent misunderstanding entertained by some that the memorialists have been ungrateful to and forgetful of the services rendered by the ancestors of those against whom the complaint is now made viz. the foreign Brahmin ministers of by gone days. While duly sensible of the value of the services the Brahmin Dewans have rendered the memorialists cannot forget that a great measure of the success achieved by the foreign Dewans has been mainly due to the glorious race of native rulers who have from time to time filled the musned their native land and also to the active co-operation of the no less important personages who have always represented Her Majesty's bennig rule over them all. That the pure native were competent to carry on the administration of the country in more troublous times with not less satisfaction than that given by their immediate foreign successors is also a fact which will be patent to these who may look at the array of native Dewans who have graced the administration at its earlier and more difficult stages. We believe that it will not be maintained that a class of people who supplied such eminent men in the past have not degenerated so far now as to produce only men fitted to hold only subordinate offices, when the educational and other qualifications of the present generation are considered. The reason of the change is found in their systematic exclusion from high offices during the time when this country was ruled for a continuous period of more than half a century by foreign administrators.

64. THE MALAYALI MEMORIAL AND AFTER

(Continued)

Reproduced below is the last item in the series the full text of the 'Counter Memorial Presented to the Maharaja by certain sections refuting the arguments in the Malayali Memorial together with the summary of the Memorial in Malayalam. The prayer of the Counter Memorialists is for the selection or the "absolutely best and fittest men irrespective of caste or creed, native or foreign for public service."

To

His Highness Sri Patmanabha Dasa Vanchi Bala Sir Rama Varma Kulasekhara Kriritapati Manney Sultan Maha Raja Ramaraja Bahadur Shamsher Jang, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India,

Maharaja of Travancore,

& C. & C. & C. & C.

May it please your highness

We, the undersigned natives of Travancore and loyal and dutiful subjects of your Highness, most humbly and respectfully beg permission to submit the following memorial for Your Highness' kind and attentive consideration.

2. The main object of our memorial is to remove a stigma which has been unjustly and unnecessarily cast upon the administration of Your Highness and your Highness predecessors by Certain Sections of Your Highness subjects in a memorial recently presented by them to Your Highness. We refer to the Malayali memorial dated the 11th January 1891 complaining of foreign and Brahmin prepondence and native exclusion and discouragement is the Government service and requesting the enactment of rules 'restricting the giving

of appointments as much as possible to none but native's of the country. The Malayali memorial has come to us as a surprise and we much regret that a number of Your Highness' subjects should have though it proper and necessary to present such a memorial.

3. We beg to assure Your Highness that we do not at all share in the complaints, animadiversions and criticisms expressed in the Malayali memorial and we feel confident to further assure Your Highness that that memorial does not represent the feelings and sentiments of the majority of the natives of the country or of those who have the welfare of Travancore at heart.

4. The complaint of foreign and Brahmin preponderance and of native exclusion and discouragement is entirely without foundation. There are two fundamental errors in the Malayali memorial. The first of these errors is, the classing as foreign Hindus of a large portion (3,18,775 or 13.14 per cent, taking the figure given in the Malayali memorial) of the population of Travancore consisting of non-malayali Brahmins, Pandi Sudras, Vellalars, the artisan classes, shannars, pariahs &C. who are really natives of the country. The majority of the above classes are decendants of foreign Hindus who emigrated to and settled in Travancore generations ago and who now know no other father-land than Travancore. Some of them are recent settlers but they too are nevertheless natives of Travancore in the proper sense of the terms. The real foreigners among the 3,18,775 people mentioned above form but a small minority and they reside in the country mostly for purposes of trade. The Malayali Sudras themselves are not the aborigines of Travancore. The waves of emigration which passed from the northern to the southern portions of India in olden days brought both the Malayali Hindus and the majority of the so-called foreign Hindus to Travancore the former probably at earlier and the latter at more recent dates. There is no doubt that the non-Malayali Hindus are the real natives of Nanjanad and Shencottah. The latter District is exclusively inhabitated by them and they form the majority in the former. The term foreigners would, adopting the logic of the Malayali memorialists, aptly describe the position of the Malayali Sudras, the subsequent settlers and minority in Nanjanad. The Tamil Brahmin Dalawahs who administered the affairs of Travancore for several years are referred to the Shungoonny Menon's History of Travancore as native Brahmins. The definition of a native suggested by the

Malayali memorialists will be somewhat as follows:- 'A native of Travancore shall include any person born and domiciled in Travancore of parents habitually resident in the country and not established there for temporary purposes only'. Adopting this definition the majority of the people classed as foreign Hindus in the Malayali memorial will come under the class of 'natives'. It is not the higher castes alone that constitute the three hundred and one thousand foreign Hindus mentioned in the Malayali memorial. The majority of the numerous body of Shannars an industrial and useful Tamil speaking race chiefly found in South Travancore corresponding to the Elavars of North Travancore, and the majority of the Pariahs already referred to and others are included therein. The cry of foreigners raised against people of the same nationality may, of even the same classes, who have been long settled in the country, is a meaningless cry. That cry was unknown until the Malayali memorial came into existence. We, the Christian and Malayali Hindu portion of Your Highness, memorialists, consider the Brahmins, Pandi Sudras and others who have settled in the country and who have cast their lots with us as much natives of the soil as we ourselves are. What surprises us much is, that though the Christians are expressly referred to as natives in the Malayali memorial the class of non-Malayali Hindus to which a considerable body of the Christians belonged before their conversion, are described therein as foreigners. Viewing the term native in its correct sense, the foreign preponderance complained of the Malayali memorial altogether disappears. With few exceptions which can almost be counted on the figures, the officers in the higher ranks of the Government service are natives. This will be seen by a careful examination of the list of our public servants. Among the higher officers, the Dewan is a native, the next highest revenue officer the Settlement Dewan Peishcar is a native, 2 out of the 4 Dewan Peishcars in charge of Divisions are Natives, 2 out of the 3 Deputy Peishcars are natives, all the 4 Assistant Peishcars are natives, all the Huzoor Officers with the exception of one or two are natives. All the 29 Tahsildars with the exception of 2 or 3 are natives, all the Zillah Judges exclusive, of the one European are with the exception of 3 or natives, all the Magistrates of whom there are 120 exclusive of the Europeans and the revenue officers already referred to with the exception of one are natives and all the 3 Inspectors of Registration are natives. All the District Registrars of whom there are 34 are with the exception of 3 or 4 natives and in the Police

Department 94.4 percent are natives. The minor appointments are admittedly mostly filled up by natives. It is unnecessary to enter into further details. It will be clearly seen from the above that the complaint of foreign preponderance in the Government service is not based upon facts. That complaint is wholly founded on the wrong assumption as 'foreigners' of people who are really natives of the country. There are, it is true, foreigners in the Government service. But they are few in number and have mostly come into the country at the special invitation of the Maharajahs and their trusted advisers. Travancore has been from time to time adopting British institutions and modes of government. In order to ' introduce and work at, the commencement those institutions and modes of government, the services of skilled foreigners had to be sought for from British India. To this circumstance might be chiefly traced the entertainment of foreigners in the service. In many instances, those foreigners were holding important posts in the British Service. As a rule, the Maharajahs and their advisers have only entertained foreigners when duly qualified natives were not available and when such a course was found necessary in the exigencies of the service. Travancore owes its formation and place as a kingdom to a Tamil Brahmin the celebrated Dalawah Rama Iyen. It was he who largely added by conquest to the then comparatively narrow dimensions of Travancore Rama Iyen was a skilful general, a great statesmen and had not his equal in their disinterested and able discharge of the duties of Prime Minister and in his devotion and loyalty to his sovereign. The foundations of order and good government in Travancore were laid by that great man. Travancore also owes a great deal of its prosperity, civilization and enlightenment and likewise its prominent position among the well governed native States of India, to foreign Brahmin administrators. It was that eminent statesman the late lamented Rajah Sir Madava Row who assuming office at a critical period in the history of Travancore not only redeemed the country from its them embarrasments but by his successful and brilliant administration won for Travancore the proud appellation of 'The Model Native State in British India'. That reputation, Travancore has maintained under the subsequent administration of the foreign Dewans the Honourable Seshiah Sastry and the Honourable V. Ramiengar and of its present native Dewan T. Rama Row Esquire C.I.E. It is to another great foreign Hindu, the late Mr. Sadasiva Pillay, the head of the Judicial administration of the State for several years, that Travancore chiefly owes its

systematic organisation of courts, its improved laws and the purity of the its judicial service. It is scarcely necessary to refer to the more recent successors of that eminent Judge are Your Highness knows them so well. Much of the prosperity of the trade and commerce of Travancore is due to foreign Hindus who in the first instance had to be invited and encouraged by the Maharajahs to settle in the country.

5. The second noteworthy error in the Malayali memorial is the advocacy of the distribution of Government appointments among the several classes and creeds in the country according to their numerical strength. The Malayali memorialists complain that the Malayalai Hindus and Christians have not been given their full and proper share in the appointments in the State in their various grades especially the higher. They further say that the Malayali Sudras, 'even if in point of education they are comparatively backaward they as the real natives of the soil deserve the special support of Your Highness. Government', that the Bristish Government have accorded special previleges to the Mohomedans, that certain British District Officers, 'reject applications for appointment in their own offices from Brahmins' and that the 'example set by the British Government is worthy of imitation' here. In no civilized country are appointments distributed among the component classes of the population according to numbers. Such a distribution will not only be subversive of all good government and productive of mischievious consequences but will practically be impossible. Good government can be secured only by the selection of the fittest and best available men for the public service. The entire business of Government is skilled employment. Intellectual and moral worth and professional attainments alone must be the qualifications for Government employment. We may quote here the weighty words of the great western thinker John Stuart Mill on the point. Mill says in his treatise on Representative Government "A most important principle of good government in a popular constitution is that no executive functionaries should be appointed by popular election; neither by the votes of the people themselves nor by those of their representatives. The entire business of Government is skilled employment; the qualifications for the discharge of it are of that special and professional kind, which cannot be properly judged of, except by persons who have themselves some share of those qualifications or some practical experience of

them. The business of finding the fittest persons to fill public employment not merely selecting the best officer but looking out for the absolutely best and taking note of all fit persons who are met with, that they may be found when wanted, is very labourious and requires a delicate as well as highly conscientious discernment; and as there is no public duty which is in general so badly performed, so there is none for which it is of greater importance to enforce the utmost practicable amount of personal responsibility, by imposing it as a special obligation on high functionaries in the several departments". His Excellency Lord Wenlock the new Governor of Madras affirmed the same principle when complaints similar to those urged by the Malayali memorialists were made to him recently by the Eurasian and Mohamedan communities of Madras. Tne Malayali memorial and Mohamedan communities of Madras. The Malayali memoriel though at the outset if refers to the total Malayali Hindu population and gives their numbers as 1,436,835, only urges the claims of the portion of that population which consist of the Malayali Sudras, (464,239) the Nanjanad Sudras (20,000) and the Ealavars or Tiers (387,176) as also of the Christians and chiefly of those of the Malayali Sudras who comprise 1/5 of the total population of Travancore. The Census Report of 1050 from which the total percentage of male and female education mentioned in the Malayali memorial have been taken, gives the percentage of, educated males to total males among the Brahmins, Vellalars, Pandi Sudras, Malayali Sudras, Native Christian and Ealavaras as respectively 50.18,36.19,31.59,21.27, 12.42 and 3.15. The Census Report of 1056 contains no educational statistics. It must be admitted that all classes have advanced in education since 1050. But that the ratio between the classes mentioned above has not materially altered, at least so far as higher education is concerned, will be seen by a reference to the educational result and statistics, incomplete though they are, published in the Madras University Calendars and the Travancore Administration Report. Up to date 238 Bachelors of Arts i.e. inclusive of those who have passed by private study and also of those who eventually passed out of other Colleges, 26 Bachelors of Laws, 7 Masters of Arts, one M.B. and C.M. and one B.C.E. has passed out of the Travancore College and from Travancore. Of the Bachelors of Arts one is H.H. the Second Prince, 6 are Kshetriyas, 114 Brahmins, 63 Malayali Sudras, 22 Pandi Sudras, 17 Syrian Christians, 7 Eurasians and 7 native Christians and one is a European.

Of the 26 Bachelors of Laws 16 are Brahmins, 4 Malayali Sudras, 3 Pandi Sundras and 3 Christians. 2 of the Masters of Arts are Brahmins, one a Pandi Sudra, one a Kshetriya, 2 Malayali Sudras and one an Eurasian. The one M.D. and C.M. is a Brahmin and the one B.C.E. a Syrian Christian. A perusal of the results of other University Examinations and of the British and Travancore Service Examinations will show that by far the higher percentage of successful candidates is Brahmins. The non-Malayali Brahmins have been the earliest in the field among those who have sought the benenfits of English Education and they will occupy in proportion to their population a pre-eminent position among all classes in that respect, will be seen from the statement published in page 160 of the latest Travancore Administration Report. The number of pupils (boys) in the English District and aided schools in 1065 among the Brahmins, Pandi Sudras, Malayali Sudras and Christians are given in the report as respectively 894*, 244, 1, 135 and 752. Taking the figures given in the Malayalai Memorial the Ma1yalai Hindus occupy by far the greater number and proportion of minor appointments in the Travancore service, so many as 11,668 out of 13,000 appointments of all ranks held by the so called foreign Hindus, Malayali Hindus and Native Christians are stated in the memorial as .99, .79, and. 26 and of appointments above 10 Rs. as .45, 11 and 06. On the basis of education as the stand of qualification for Government service, there is no disproportion in the distribution of the total appointments among the 3 classes mentioned above. The mis-named foreign Hindus who are really mostly non-malayali Hindu natives of Travancore and the class of Brahmins among them occupy less than their just share in the total appointments. In appointments above 10 Rs. there are no Ealavars or Pulayars. Education which qualifies for Government service is often now at a veiw low ebb among Ealavars and among the Pulayars such education is nil. These remarks apply to some other classes of Malayali Hindus and to some sections of the non-malayali Hindus also. In taking therefore the percentage of those employed to the total population so far as appointments above 10 Rs. are concerned the classes virtually uneducated or among whom education is very low must be excluded. Even among the educated classes we shall have to see what proportion of them really posses the qualifiations necessary for the higher

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There might be some Malayali Brahmins also among the 894 Brahmin Pupils but they are few in number.

grade of the Government service especially as University and Service examinations arc now the indispensable qualifications for the majority of appointments above 10 Rs. When considered in this, the proper light, the disproportion complained of by the Malayali memorialists disappears. Even if some disproportion exists, it is a matter for which there is no help. The principle of selection being the choice ofthe best and the fittest and the absolutely best, it is neither desirable nor possible to secure equal proportions of all classes in the Government service. To attain that result, the highly objectionable principle of distribution of appointments according to numerical stregth will have virually to be adopted. The absurdity of the curiously expressed and ambiguously worded wish of the Malayali memorialists for the total exclusion from Government Service of the non-malayali Brahmins the majority of whom are as much natives of the soll as the Malayali Sudras themselves and who have had from time in memorial as good a share, if not more, in ruling the country as the Malayali Sudras needs no comment. It may be mentioned in this connection that the claims of the important class of Mahomedans whose percentage in education is much higher than that of the Ealavars is omitted in the Malayali memorial on the ground that education is at a low ebb among them. The census Report of 1050 gives the lowest percentage of education to total males among Mahomedans as 8.39, the highest as 38.58 and the avarage as 9.27. The claims of the Ealavars however whose percentage of education according to the above census Report is only 3. 15 have been set forth in the memorial evident1y as their large numbers swell the total number of Malayali Hindus and go to show an apparently low percentage of appointments for the Malayali Hindus. The reference in the Malayali memorial to the state and private charities and gifts as helping the Brahmins in their English education appears to us too frivolous to need refutation.

6. Certain portion of the Malayali memorial appear to us especially objectionable and we cannot but notice them here. The Malayali memorialists say "yet the Malayali Sudras in Travancore under their own Government rules over by members of their own nationality are in a far worse position at present than their brethren in Malabar under an alien Government. Their condition is all the more deplorable when it is remembered by Your Highness that they were from time immemorial-till with in the last few years the chief administrators

of the State. History records a distinguished line of Dewans who had sprung from the Nair Class and who were renowned as much for their administrative capabilities as for their deepseated devotion to the throne. Not only the Dewanship but almost all the higher appointments were also held by them. A reference to the list of Travancore Dewans shows that this country which used from time immemorial to be administered by a number of Native Prime Ministers was ruled from 1817 to 1872 for about half a century by a series of foreign Dewans Regularly and systematically these Dewans without exception not only introduced their relations, castemen and friends into the State but tried their best to oust the Nair's and prevent them from filing any of the higher appointments. The pernicious effect of this policy is well illustrated by the gradual way in which all the Malayali Sudras were ousted from the offices of Dewan Peishcars which form the stepping stone to the Prime-Ministership and all of which were held by them till so late as thirty years ago The policy inaugurated by foreign Dewans to the detriment of the natives of the State is, we are sorry to submit being now followed. Able and educated Malayali Sudras are denied admission to the Huzur and relatives and castemen of officers in power are carefully promoted. We cannot but express our surprise at the above statements of the Malayali memorialists which are far wide of the truth and of the facts recorded by history. The only history of Travancore we have is that written by the late Mr. Shangunny menon a Malayali Sudra who was for several years Dewan Peishcar of one of the Divisions in Travancore. The first mention by name of a Prime Minister in that book is that of Aroomookam Pillay who was appointed acting Dalwah in 1726 A.D. and confirmed in that office in 1729. In the latter year however the celebrated Rama I yen Dalawah had been entertained in the Government service and had commenced to exercise his away (He was then 'Secretary of State'). Upto 1727 Aroomookam Pillay and his brother Thannu Pillay were Dalawahs. Rama Iyen's brilliant career commenced in that year and extended up to his death in 1756. Among the Dewans, it was Rama Iyen who held office for the longest period, a period to which Travancore owes its formation and regeneration. Iyappen Marthanda Pillay succeeded Rama Iyen and was Dalawah till 1763 and from that year up to 1788 with the exception of one year during which Mallen Chembaka Raman Pillay was Delawah, Warkaly Subba Iyen, Gopala Iyen, Vadiviswarom Soobramania Iyen and Nagercoil Rama Iyen all non-Malayali Hindus and

Brahmins were Prime Ministers. Krishnan Chembakaraman succeeded Nagercoil Ramahien in 1788 but he died one year after. From 1789 till 1799, Raja Keshava Doss was Dewan. He was succeeded by a Malayali Brahmin also a foreigner according to the Malayali Memorial who however was in office only for a short time. After him Iyappan Chembaka Raman and Patmanabhan Chembaka Raman did the duties of Prime Minister for about 22 months. In 1802 Velu Thamby became Dalawah and his administration extended upto 1809 and Ununany Thampy succeeded him. Ummany Thampy's tenure of office lasted only for one two years. In 1810 the reigning Ranee entrusted the administration into the hands of the then British Resident Colonel Munro. The beneficient administration of Colonel Munro continued up to 1314 and after that Dewan Patmanabhan under the sole advice of the Resident was Dewan for 5 months. After Dewan Patmanabhan Dewan Peishcar Bappoo Rowand Subbien Sankara Narayan Iyen the former a foreigner and the latter a non-Malayali native Brahmin administered the affairs of the state. Shankara Narayan Iyen was succeeded by Ramen Menone, a foreigner, native of Cochin. But he continued in office only till 1817, From 1817 to 1877 the admiaistration of Travancore affairs was carried on by foreign Dewans 8 in number. Nanoo Pillay a Malayali Sudra was Dewan from 1877 to 1880. He was followed by V. Ramaiengar who continued up to 1887 and from that date the present Dewan has been in office. It will thus be seen that from 1726 (from which date alone we have authentic information) up to date a period of 165 years Travancore affairs have been administered by Prime-ministers by far the greater number of whom were Tamil and Maharatta Brahmins. The Brahmin sway extended for about 114 years while the native Nairs were in office only for about 4.1 years, the remaining 6 years having been the period of administration of a European, a Malayali Brahmin and a Malayali Sudra all of whom were foreigners. That Travancore owes by far the greated portion of its territorial, material and moral advancement to Brahmin Prime-ministers and that the Brahmin role of Dewans and Dalawahs shows a number of distinguished names while able Nair Dewans were but few are matters of history and need not be detailed here. The Tamil Brahmin Dewan who administered the country for more than 40 years before 1817 for as long a term as their Malayali countrymen of the same period though all natives of Travancore must according to the Malayali memorialists be reckoned as foreign Hindus. History does not furnish

us with sufficient data as to the classes of which the subordinate officers in the Travancore State were composed before the year 1860. But that non-Malayali Brahmins and foreigners formed an important element of the service both in the revenue and judicial administrations before 1860 will be seen from the references in Mr. Shangunny Menon's history to Dewan Peishcars Bappoo Row, Reddy Row, Venkata Row, Renga Row, Veeraswami Naidoo, Krishan Row, Kunden Menon, Sreenevassa Row, Rajah Sir Madava Row and Ramen menon and to Appeal Court Judges Bagavantha Row, Sreenevassa Row, Veeraswami Mudaliar, Vedadrisadasa Mudaliar and Parameswaran Namboodiri and from the fact that the Sattavariola of laws which established regular Courts for the first time in Travancore in the year 1812 enacted that of the 3 Judges provided for the Court of appeal and subordinate courts 2 should be Brahmins and one a Nair. If at one time it happened that all the Dewan Peishcars were Malayali Sudras, and if now, the majority of them are Brahmins, those facts cannot be the result of any particular encouragement to the Malayalis at that time or their exclusion now. The year 1860 pointed out in the Malayali memorial as the year in which both the Dewan Peishcars were Malayali Sudras was in the middle of the period of the foreign administration which comenced in 1817 and that CIrcumstance redounds to the credit of the foreign administrators. As a matter of fact one of the two Malayali Dewan Peishcars of 1860 was appointed only in 1858 in the place of a foreign Brahmin Rajah Sir Madava Row, on his elevation to the post of Prime-minister. In 1858 and for some years previous, both the Dewan Peishcars (Rajah Sir Madava Row and Ramen Menone) were foreigners. All the Brahmin and foreign Dewan Peishcars and appeal Court Judges whose names we have referred to above were in office before 1860. The foreign administrators as a rule instead of excluding and discouraging the Malayalis encouraged and advanced them and favoured their claims. The names of Rajah Sir Madava Row the Honorable Seshia Sastry, the Honourable V. Rama Iyengar and the present Dewan may be prominently mentioned in this connection. It is to foreign administrators and to them alone especially to Sir Madava Row that the Malayali Hindus owe the English and in great part the Vernacular education they refer to in the Malayali memorial. The names of Rama I yen Dalawah and Rajah Sir Madava Row are household words in Travancore. But for the noble work done by them Travancore would not have attained to anything like its present prosperous

and enlightened condition. To forget the services of Rama Iyen Dalawah and to attribute interested and unworthy motives to Sir Madava Row appeal to us to savour of ingratitude and unwarranted calumny.

7. We, the Syriean Christain portion of Your Highness' Memorialists, were until lately devoted to the persuits of religion, agriculture and commerce. We owe our present flourishing and prosperous condition to the tolerance and encouragement held out to us from time immemorial by the Travancore Maha Rajas and their Brahmin Prime ministers. We sought Government Service only in recent times and our claims were readily recognised by the Maha Rajas and by their foreign Brahmin Prime-ministers. We have no complaint whatever against the present or past administrations in respect of Government appointments. The majority of our class and its really thinking portion do not a share in the sentiments expressed by the Malayali memorialists. We would be guilty of ingratitude if we join the Malayali sudras in an agitation which appears to us to have no foundation whatever on facts.

8. The Census Report of 1056 shows that Government service gives occupation to only 1.33 per cent of the total male population and to but a very small number (200) of females. In these days of enlightenment and advancing civilization when each year turns out graduates and undergraduates far in excess of the number that can possibly be absorbed in the Government service and when each succeeding convocation address advices graduates not to look up to Government appointments as the goal of their University career, it is really a matter for wonder that Malayali memorialists among whom there are several graduates should say. "The passing of these rules (rules in regard to the appointment of natives as much as possible to the Government service) and the rigorous enforcement of them beginning from the immediate present will alone save Your Highness' subjects from that degradation and degeneration with which they are threatened and secure a chance for the natives of the country, at least in the far future, to regain their former position and status in the land". We are unable to realize in our minds the apprehended degeneration and degradation which if at all would affect only about one percent of the male population of the country and but a small number of females; and the remedy suggested for their cure appears to us to be a quick remedy advertised for deluding the public and not a real medicine which will have any beneficial effects whatever.

9. Good Government has been hitherto our privilege and we are anxious to secure its continuance in the future. The selection of the absolutely best and fittest men irrespective of consideration of caste or creed, native or foreigner, for the various offices in the State has until now been the enlightened principle on which the Travancore Maha Rajas have acted to secure the benefits of good government for their people. Any departure from that principle will, we are afraid, be productive of evil consequences to the State and to the people.

10. We therefore humbly pray that your Highness will give that attention and consideration to our representations which the importance of the subject demands and we would earnestly solicit Your Highness not to make the slightest departure from the enlightened and liberal policy which Your Highness and Your Highness' Predecessors have been invariably following in the selection of men for the public service, a policy which has not only contributed to the moral and material advancement of Your Highness' subjects but also earned for Travancore a proud position among the well Governed States of India.

We humbly beg to subscribe ourselves,

May it please Your highness,

Your Highness' most loyal and dutiful subjects.

65. GOVERNMENT GRANT TO THE HOLY ANGELS' CONVENT

This grant given to one of the most prestigious Educational Institutions in Trivandrum, established in 1880 A.D. is one among the numerous acts of patronage of the Travancore Government for providing education for girls.

Sub :-Education-Convent School, Trivandrum-Grants 1891.

To

The Superintendent of District Schools,

Travancore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith the statistics of the School attached to the Convent of the Holy Angels, called for in your letter.

2. I take this opportunity of submitting a formal application for a grant-in-aid for the school, and trust you will lay it before His Highness the Maharaja's Government with your favourable recommendation.

3. The school was established by the Bishop of Quilon on the 22nd November 1880, and has now been furnished with a large and commodious building. Of the 259 pupils on the Rolls only 102 pay fees, the rest be in very poor are taught free. Of these latter again 22 are orphans, entirly supported by the Convent, and 43 receive a noon day meal as an inducement for them to attend school.

4. Teaching staff-besides the Lady Superior and five sisters (one of whom is a matriculate), the staff consists of a French Lady assistant, and five male and ten female teachers whose salaries amount to Rs. 155 a month. The contingent expense amount to Rs. 15. Thus the total expenditure of the school

is Rs. 170 a month a very small portion of which is covered by the fees.

5. The success of the Institution may be gathered from the enclosed list of pupils, who have passed the University and special test examinations during the years the school has been in existence. This year the school intends presenting 6 pupils for the matriculation, 5 for the Higher examination for women, 8 for the Middle School and 5 for the special upper primary. The Institution also supplies teachers, trained by the sisters for several mission schools.

6. Considering the inadequacy of the receipts of the Institution, and the useful work it is doing for His Highness the Maharaja's subjects, I beg that you will be pleased to recommend an exceptional grant of Rupees 100 a month for the school, which amount alone will in a manner suffice to maintain the Institution in that degree of efficiency, befitting a school which has been the first in Travancore to pass out young ladies in the University Entrance Examination.

I have etc.,
(Sd.)
FR. M. VICTOR,
Manager.

Convent of the Holy Angels,
Trivandrum, 15th September, 1890.

Name & Address of Secretary or Correspondent with Government:	Rev. Fr. Mary Victor-D. C., M. A. Trivandrum.
Date of Establishment:	22nd November 1880.
Name of Responsible Manager	Rev. Fr. Mary Victor D.C., .M.A.
Class of School (i.e.) whether for Boys or Girls:	Girls Schools- Very young boy are admitted

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Office of the Superintendent of
District Schools, on Circuit,
Ambalapulay, 7th February 1891.

To

The Dewan of Travancore.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith, for your disposal, an application for a special grant from the Convent of the Holy Angels, Trivandrum. This is a very efficient institution teaching upto the Matriculation Standard, and the results it has achieved in the various public examinations bear testimony to the satisfactory teaching and superior management of the schools. In consideration of the high standing of the Institution and the excellent work it is doing it is, I think, fully entitled to substantial help from Government. I may add that the maximum grant of Rs. 50 obtainable under the Rules is given to the only female school at present under the department viz. the convent school at Quilon, where the standard is much lower.

I have etc.,
(Sd.)
J.A. DUTHIE,
superintendentof District Schools.

Palace: Trivandrum,
5th April 1891.

My dear Sir,

In returning herewith the enclosure of your D.O. of the 4th instand, I beg to inform you that His Highness the Maha Rajah has been pleased to sanction a grant of Rs. 100 a month being given to the Convent School at Trivandrum.

I am etc.,

(Sd.)

M.C. NEELACANDA PILLAI

To

M.R. Ry. T. Rama Row Avl., C. I. E., F.M.U.
Dewan of Travancore.

66. CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING THE ERECTION OF THE STATUE OF SIR T. MADHAVA RAO

The statue standing in the Main road on the western side of the Secretariat, Trivandrum was erected in honour of Madhava Rao, Dewan of Travancore (1033 1047 M.E.) who was partly responsible for the construction of that building.

C. No. 1250

Sir T. Madava Rao-His Bronze Statue.

Trivandrum,
12th July, 1892.

To

M.R. Ry. T. Rama Row Avergal, C.J. E. F. M. U.,
Dewan of Travancore.

Sir,

At a meeting of the subscribers to the Rajah Sir Madava Rao Memorial Fund, held on the 9th instant it was resolved that the following are the eligible sites for placing the bronze statue of the late Sir Madava Rao which is expected here shortly.

(1) The triangular piece of ground at the point where the civil Hospital road branches off from the main road, opposite the Public Offices.

(2) Some conspicuous spot in the Public gardens.

I am desired to request you to be so kind as to obtain the sanction of His Highness Government for putting up the statue in either of the places indicated. I may add that the meeting considered the first site as being preferable to the second.

The statue is proposed to be placed on a pedastal in the open air.

I have the honor to be Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

P. THANU PILLAI,

Joint Secrtary,

Rajah Sir *Madava Rao,*

Memorial Fund.

H. C. Trivandrum, July*

To

The Joint Secretary,
Rajah Sir Madava Rao
Memorial Fund.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that His Highness the Maharajah has no objection to the bronze statue of the late Rajah Sir Madhava Rao being placed at the triangular piece of ground opposite the Public Offices, the first of the sites chosen.

I have

(Sd.)

Dewan.

* (date and year not given)
See the succeeding titles

H.C.

Trivandrum January 1893

To

The Chief Engineer.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that His Highness the Maharajah has at the request of the Rajah Sir Madava Row Memorial Committee permitted the placing of a bronze statue of the Late Rajah Sir Madhava Row on the triangular piece of ground opposite the public offices where the civil Hospital road branches off from the main road.

(Sd.)
Chief Justice,
in-charge

67. APPOINTMENT OF RAJARAJA VARMA AS PRINCIPAL OF THE SANSKRIT COLLEGE

A.R. Rajaraja Varma surnamed 'Kerala Panini' was one of the greatest scholars and literary figures in Kerala. His contribution to Sanskrit and Malayalam are immense and invaluable. His three outstanding works in Malayalam are 'Kerala Paniniyam', 'Bhasha Bhooshanam' and Virthamanjeri". He started his career as the Principal of the Sanskrit College, Trivandrum, and rose to the position of Principal of H.H. the Maharaja's College, Trivandrum. Given below is the copy of the G.O. appointing him as Principal of the Sanskrit College.

No. E.

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum,
November, 1893.

To

The Director of Vernacular Education.

Sir,

In continuation of this office No. 6020/*M*. 2127 dated 16 instant sanctioning a revised scale of salaries for the Inspector, the teaching staff of the Sanskrit School. I have the honour to inform you that His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to sanction the following further arrangements connected with the working and management of the Sanskrit College:-

(i) That Mr. Raja Raja Varma Coil Tampuran M. A. be made the Principal of the College having direct control over the teaching staff and being responsible for the efficiency of the institution.

i That he be independent of the Director of Vernacular Education, who should be relieved of the present charge in that connection.

iii That the Principal be allowed to correspond with the Diwan directly and act under his orders in all matters relating to the Sanskrit College.

The above arrangements will take effect from this ate.

I have & C.
Diwan

68. ENQUIRY ABOUT TWO OF THE MISSING COPPER PLATES IN THE POSSESSION OF THE SYRIAN CHRISTIANS

The "Syrian Copper Plates", indicating grants made to the ancient Christian community in Kerala by various Keralite rulers, are historical documents of great importance. The kufic, pehlevi and Hebrew scripts used enhance their value. Unfortunately only four of the six copper plates are now available. This file dealing with an enquiry about the missing plates is important for a variety of reasons. Firstly the great interest shown by the Madras and Travancore Governments indicates the importance given to such matters in the past. Secondly the enquiry, instead of providing clues about the missing copper plates, only made matters more mysterious.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following papers:-

From the Government Epigraphist,

Banglore, dated 3rd July 1895, No. 272.

I have the honour to submit that under my orders, my first Assistant, Mr. Venkayya visited Kottayam in the Travancore State in order to take impressions of the two copper plate grants which are in the possession of the Syrian Christians and of which drawings were published by Sir Walter Elliot in the Madras Journal of Literature and Science (Vol. XIII Part 1.). The grants are two in number, one consistes of a single plate and the other of five plates. I regret very much to report that the first and last plate of the second set are now apparently lost Mr. Venkayya was informed by the Agent of the

Metropolitan of the Syrian Church that that the plates had been filed in the chief Court at Trivandrum in connection with some suit, and that the two missing plates were not returned to their owner. The loss of the two plates is very unfortunate as the first plate contains the name of the king during whose reign the document was issued, and the last plate bears those curious signatures in kofie, pehlevi and Hebrew characters which have attracted the attention of scholars like Drs. Gundert, Burnel and Hang and with the help of which Dr. Hang assigned the whole grant to the early part of the ninth century A. D. palaeographical grounds (vide the Indian antigury, Vol. VI, page 366 for a photo graph of the missing last plate). As it may not yet be too late to take steps for recovering the plates. I request that the Government might be so good as to address the Travancore Government on the subject.

2. If the two plates should be recovered, I request that the Metrapolitin might be asked to send them to me on loan as I am anxious to publish a complete photograph of the grant in the Epigraphic Indica.

Order 12th July 1895, No. 588.

A copy of Dr. Hultzsch's letter will be forwarded to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin with the request that he will be so good as to take steps for the recovery of the plate referred to, and their transmission on loan to Dr. Hultzsch.

(Sd.)

W. FRANCIS,

Ag. Under Secretary,

For Chief Secretary.

Trivandrum,

5th August 1895

From

The Most Revd. Mar Dionysious,
Syrian Metropolitan of Malankara.

To

T. Rajaram Row, Esq., B. A.,
Dewan Peishkar,
Kottayam.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant and the enclosures regarding the ancient copper plates in my possession and beg to state in reply that I fully share the regret expressed in Dr. Hultzsch's letter to the Madras Government and the Resident's memo at the loss of two of those interesting plates. To me and to the community on whose behalf I am entrusted with the safe keeping of the extent plates, that loss is regretable on more than merely antiquarian grounds.

It is believed among us that originally there were more plates than six in the possession of the Syrian Metropolitans of Malankara. During the domination of the Portuguese in Cochin and in their attempts to subjugate the Syrian Community to the Pope, they became, somehow, possessed of them and through them some member of the Portuguese Community in Cochin. It was through the Kind offices and persistent endeavours of Colonel Mecaulay, British Resident in Travancore and Cochin and six of these interesting plates were recovered from the latter in the earlier years of the century. The others are apparently lost beyond recovery. He gave them back to the Syrian Metropolitan of the time and these 6 plates have since remained in the custody of the Metropolitan for the time being. Particulars of these six plates may be found in the journal of the Royal Asiatic Society Vol. VII, pp 343 squar and in an article by the late C. M. Whish Esq., in the Asiatic Journal N. S. Vol. VI, p 6, besides the number of the Indian Antiquary referred to in Dr. Hultzsch's letter to the Government of Madras dated Bangalore 3rd July 1895 No. 272.

The late Esqr. Athanasius my predecessor became possessed of these 6 plates on his appointment to this See in the year 1852. In O. S. No. 439 of

1054 of the Alleppey Zillah Court, which was a suit instituted by me to recover from the late Thomas Athanasius who set himself up as his successor, the properties and insignia of office appertaining to the Syrian Metropolitan he was ordered by the court to produce these plates. He produced only four and represented that they were all he had in his possession.

I have however reason to believe that the two missing plates were withheld by him as they were naturally of a character that would militate against his contentions in that suit. Since the decision of that suit, I have endeavored to secure those two plates, but regret to say that I have failed. If not destroyed which I should be very sorry to believe they may be in the custody of Titus Mar Thomas, residing at Maramannoo, Aarammala Provethy.

It may yet be possible to recover these interesting records from him, if you will approach him with a statement of the object for which they are at present wanted. My agent must have been misinformed, if the stated to Mr. Venkayya that they were lost while in the custody of the Court. Only these four were produced in Court.

I have etc.,

(Sd.)

MAR DIONYSIUS.

Maraman Church,
Aranula,
2nd October 1295.

To

The Tahsildar of Thiruvella.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 16th and the 30th ultimo with enclosures, and in reply I beg to state that I was under the impression that all the copper plates in our possession were filed in the Zillah Court at Alleppey. I know nothing about the missing ones. I need scarcely say that I would have been most willing to send them up for submission to the Madras Government if they were in my possession. I cannot agree with Mar Dionysius in his statement that the missing copper plates were withheld from the court by the late Mr. Thomas Athanasius, because their contents were against the contentions in that case. That he should have withheld two of the plates, all of which were then indecipherable, although both parties in the said suit tried their best to get them translated is quite unnatural and unkind to suppose. I am therefore inclined to suspect that they were lost long before they came into his possession.

I have etc.,
(Sd.)
T. Mar THOMA Malabar,
METROPOLITIAN.

(Sd.)
T. RAJARAM Row.
Diwan Peishkar

69. GENESIS OF THE TRIVANDRUM ART GALLERY

Practically nothing is known about the person who conceived for the first time the noble idea of starting an Art Gallery at Trivandrum. Visitors who enoy the exquisite paintings displayed in that reputed Gallery may not perhaps be aware of the genius behind its inception. The record reproduced below would bring light to the fact that the very idea of an Art Gallery was one of the longings of Raja Ravi Varma, the great painter of Kerala.

Trivandrum,
31st August, 1895.

From

M.R.Ry.
Ravi Varma Avl.,
Koil Thampuran of Kilimanoor.

To

M. R. SRY.
S. Shungrasoobyer Avergal,
Diwan of Travancore.

Sir,

I beg permission to submit to you for the consideration of Government a scheme for the establishment of an Art Gallery in Trivandrum a scheme which first originated with the late Mr. Grigg, the British Resident, who, if God had only spared him, would have elaborated and proposed it to Government himself. May, he had, as you are well aware, given it the start by giving me an order for a number of paintings for the Residency, but unfortunately it fell through on his death.

The educational and historical importance of pictures is too well known to need any but a brief allusion. In Travancore there is a greater talent for the Fine Arts than I have found in any part of India. But from want of due encouragement from the State, it is early warped and prevented from coming to the light of day. Nothing stimulates the genius of an aspiring young art student, so much as seeing and copying good work of art. A young man who

has received an elementary knowledge of drawing can achieve much by his acquaintance with and the study of the works of good artists.

It is patent to all that a wider cultivation of the artistic talent of the country will exercise its influence on the local industries and manufactures.

To what are the triumphs of art achieved by the European Countries due, but to their art schools and galleries. We see the Stamp of true artistic genius in all articles of European manufacture. A great writer says "wherever the arts are cultivated with success, they almost imperceptibly educate the general taste and make politeness of mind keep pace with refinement of manners." An art gallery therefore for such an advanced State as Travancore is a necessity which can longer be ignored.

The historical importance of pictures it is difficult to over-estimate. They throw as much light on the men and manners of a period as any amount of written record. How much poorer are we today for want of truthful pictures of the early ages of Travancore history. I have not the slightest doubt that a good gallery of paintings will be an invaluable aid to future historians of Travancore.

Since the commencement of the reign of His Highness, our illustrious Maharaja the State has entered upon an era of progress, it has never known before. While every department of education has received an impetus the Fine Arts alone have been treated with a neglect which, in this enlightened age, it does not deserve. The neglect becomes all the more glaring, especially in the eyes of an outsider, when it is taken into consideration that the country does not lack the talent for it.

All the capitals and even provincial towns of the countries of Europe possess picture galleries which have cost millions of pounds. Every year the Governments of those countries buy a certain number of the best paintings from the various Art Exhibitions, to replenish their galleries and encourage promising artists.

For an instance nearer home I wish to cite Baroda. His Hignness, the Gaikwar, possess a collection of paintings and statutary that is the admiration of every visitor to the State. The Maharaja has systematically set about getting painted his ancestors, ministers and Political Agents. His gallery can boast of a large number of works of noted European and native artists. My paintings alone number nearly fifty. The Gaikwar has been increasing his collection year by year, by the purchase of new pictures from Europe and from Indian Art

Exhibitions. Even the little State, Bhavnagar in Kathyawar, has a collection of paintings which all Travancore does not possess.

It is worthy of the serious consideration of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that such a progressive State as Travancore which contains much more indigenous talent, should be left behind them in this particular matter. For this reason I trust the proposal I have the honour to submit, will receive the due attention and support from you.

Should the Government bepleased to entrust me with the task of forming an art collection in Trivandrum, I shall execute it to its best satisfaction. I beg leave to propose to Government to layout every year a certain amount of money for the purchase of such paintings as I shall recommend to them. I shall take the greatest care that they are only works of acknowledged merit by well-known artists. The gallery should contain portraits, historical and social paintings, landscapes and statues.

I think it is a matter of great historical importance to reproduce the portraits of such of the ancient Maharajas, Diwans and Residents as can be done with the help of the materials now available. Mr. Grigg had suggested to me the necessity of preserving the likeness of the eminent personages of Travancore.

The hanging effective arrangement and preservation of the collection shall rest with me. I shall from time to time prepare catalogues of the works with their particulars for the use of the Government and the public. The cleaning, varnishing and framing shall be duly attended to and reported to Government.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

KOIL THAMPURAN OF

KILIMANOOR.

70. FIRST ELECTRIC LIGHTING FOR TRIVANRUM

At present when electricity has become so common it may be of interest to the reader to know something about the first steps taken for electrification of Trivandrum, some years ago.

The Diwan, Trivandrum.

Sir,

As per instructions kindly given in the personal interview, I beg to submit an estimate for lighting the streets of Trivandrum, with Electricity, by replacing the present 700 Kerosene lights, by 16 candle power incandescent lamps on the existing lamp posts and lantorns. Provision is also made in the estimate to supply additional 500 lights for the Maharaja's Palace, and a few private residences, when the introduction of Electric Lighting, therein may be desired.

2. The first statement gives the bare actual cost for only one set of plant at about Rs. 84,395 only; and the second one provides for a spare get of electrical appliances quite necessary to prevent any short break-downs and takes up the cost of about Rs. 1,01,850 only.

3. The Town of Trivandrum not being compact, the main and branch cables and light wires have been estimated for a length of 25 miles, and this item absorbe nearly half the amount of the whole initial outlay. Taking into consideration the highly dispersed and aggregated dwellings and the general struggling condition of the town this length of wire is absolutely necessary and requires a large initial outlay. If the scheme for electric lighting is sanctioned in place of the flickering, unsteady, smoky, kerosene lamps capable of giving out only 3 to 4 candle power each, and that to only when the wick of the

lamps is particularly adjusted high up, the Town will have for an outlay of only Rs. 85,000 at the highest, a complete set of machinery of lighting the whole town with Electricity, with uniform 16 C.P. lights, *four time more light* than there is now, without depending on the attention of the lamp lighters for increase or decrease. It will be noticed that this estimate is only slightly in excess of what has been required for lighting only a *sixth* part of the Town and with only three-forths of the number of lights, with gas.

On this calculation the whole town will be lit, with the same number of lights, but of four times the luminosity for only the additional outlay of Rs. 36,800 including the extra cost of a spare set of machinery, or Rs. 20,000 only without the extra provision. The Electric lights are besides the most brilliant steady, cool, non-smoky, untarnishing and the least dangerous of all systems of lighting.

Rs. 21-5-10 or roughly 21-8-0 will be the cost of maintenance of a light of 16 C.P. per annum. Taking the cost of Kerosene oil lighting at Rs. 12,000 including all charges of maintenance, supervision and renewals each lamp takes up per annum Rs. 17-2-4. For a difference of only Rs. -4-3-6 each lamp can be replaced by an Electric incandescent glow lamp, and four times the light obtained, with certainty.

I beg to remain,

Sir,

Yours obediently,

C. S. NARAYANASWAMY AIYAR,

Electrician.

December, 1897.

Trivandrum.

ESTIMATE NO. 1

A set of plan for 700 lights of 16 CP each

	£.	S.	d.
1. Dynamo, glow lamps lamp holders & C.,	1042	16	..
2. Engine and boiler	791	..	..
3. Two sets of accumulators of 50 cells each	781	..	..
4. Freight, customs dues, cartage &C.	261	10	..
5. Fitting and labour charges	350	..	..
6. Main and branch cables and light wires for 27miles	2400	..	..
Total	5626	6	..

or at the exchange value of Rs. 15 per. £ the whole comes to Rs. 84,395 only.

December, 1897,
Trivandrum.

C. S. NARAYANASWAMY AIYAR,
Electrician.

ESTIMATE No. II

Additional spare jet of electrical appliances for 1200 lights of 16 C. P.

	£.	S	d.
1. Seventy Break horse power Engine & boiler	913	..	..
2. Eighty units compound wound continuous current Dynamo (110 X 800)	881	..	..
3. Leather-belting	18	..	..
4. Main and branch switch boards and volt and Ammeter	65	..	..
5. Main and branch cables and light wires for 27 miles	3000	..	..
6. Thousand 16 c. p. glow lamps	75	..	..
7. 500 safety fuses	88	10	..
8. 70 lamp switches	24	10	..
9. 800 edison lamp borders	160	..	..
10. Two sets of K type accumulators 55 cells in glass	781	..	..
11. boxes, freight, packing and cutting charges	364	..	..
12. Fitting and labour charges	400	..	..
13 . 1nsulating matelials, screws & c.	20	..	..
Total	6790	..	..

or at the exchange value of Rs. 15 per £ the whole comes to Rs. 1,01,850.

C. S. NARAYANASWAMY AIYAR.

71. SCHEME FOR SHORNUR-COCHIN RAILWAY

Minutes of discussion which His Highness. The Maharaja of Cochin had with H.E. the Governor (Sir Arthur Havelock) in 1898 in connection with the Shornur-Cochin Railway Scheme. This may be a matter of interest now when new schemes for Railway lines are being taken up.

"Beaconsfield", Egmore, Madras,
5th November, 1898.

I visited H. E. the Governor at Guindy at 1 p.m. After the usual compliments H. E. told me that the Shornur-Cochin Railway Scheme was practically approved of by the Government of India. I thanked H. E. for the good news and told him that I was sure the scheme could not fail to meet with the Viceroy's approval as H. E. took such a warm interest in it and warmly and strongly supported the scheme. I also told H. E. that I was sorry to hear that the Railway Engineer thinks that the cost of the Railway may be much more than what is now estimated at. H. E. told me in reply that the new alignment is only going on and that there was no likelihood for any serious increase in the cost. I then thanked H. E. for his permitting me to speak on business matters. He then asked me whether I though the whole of the term was necessary for the completion of the work, whether Mr. Swaminantha Iyer was devoting all his time to account matters only and whether he could not be made to finish the work within the 6 months which are now sanctioned by the Madras Government. I told H. E. that Mr. S. was always doing account work and that without the whole of the term now asked for it was impossible to complete the work satisfactorily without the whole of the extra year. I also told H. E. that all these could be proved by facts and figures, if required, and informed

him that the Diwan is preparing a communication at my orders giving all details to show what work Mr. S. has hitherto done, what more has yet to be done and what time he should take to complete the remaining work. I told H. E. that I have promised to send it to Mr. Nicholson, and, if H. E. wanted to read it, I shall request him to send a copy of it to you. H. E. said in reply to this "Yes". I told H. E. that I felt very sorry when Mr. Rees told me that H. E. was pleased to recommend to the Government of India only half of the extra term I prayed for; because I had no means of knowing why H. E. thought so, especially when Mr. Rees told me what he did not himself suggest any reduction but simply forwarded the application to the Madras Government without making any comment. I informed H. E. that the Diwan fully discussed the matter with the Resident before he sent in the application for the extension of Mr. S's term and the Resident has written to him Demi-officially to effect that he has approved of our action. To this H. E. said nothing in reply but remained silent for a while. He then told me that he met Mr. S at Calicut 2 years ago and thought he was good and reliable man. I told him that I too found him so and that he assured me that the work could not be finished without the whole of the extra year. H. E. now asked me whether Mr. Nicholson will not officially write him about it. I said he would, when H. E. said to this effect:-"You want six months more: I shall see about "it". H. E. then asked me whether the Diwan was hasty in doing things. I told him he was not, but there was a wide-spread report so, which, I was sure, was circulated purposely by some interested people. H. E. asked me more than once the same thing, and I always answered him in the negative. H. E. then asked me whether the Diwan was unpopular. I told him that he was to a certain extent which, I said, I too was and that this was purely owing to the various reforms which seriously affected the gain (ill-got of course) of various persons. To this H. E said "It is quite possible. I see."

I then wanted to take leave when H. E. said that Lady Havelock will be glad to see me. I said 1 shall be very glad to see Her Excy. She also joined the party. H. E. asked me about the Town Hall at Ernakulam, about the coins being stolen away from the foundation stone and about the Havelock Market at Trichur. I told him in what stages they were-When I took leave H. E.

garlanded me and said the following kind words:-"I shall always be happy to do you any help which I can" I heartily thanked H. E. for all his Kindness and took leave of him.

Before Lady H came, H. E. asked me about the Forest Officer and when I would require him. He also asked what reforms I intended doing in the Forest Department I informed H. E. that I may require the Forest Officer in 2 months time and that a thorough re-organization of the Department was inevitable. H. E further asked me who was my Conservator of Forests and what was its revenue, and I informed him all.

R.V.

72. FINGER PRINT IMPRESSION-ITS INTRODUCTION INTO THE REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Registration of documents is an important aspect of transactions especially in transfer of landed properties. This had its beginning in this part of the country in the closing years of the 19th Centaury. Thumb impression is considered to be vital in this matter as it ensures the direct knowledge of the signatories and reduces chances of impersonation.

The documents cited here deal with the introduction of finger print impression in Kerala and reveal its salient features. It opened a new chapter in our legal history especially in that of the Code of Civil Procedure and Law of evidence.

H. C. Trivandrum,
August 1899.

To

The Director of Registration.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 38 dated 9" Instant I have the honour to inform you that the introduction of the System of finger prints in Registration Offices may be postponed to puruttasi 1075 as the necessary apparatus has not yet arrived.

The bh. Resident has been requested to arrange for the necessary facilities being rendered to Sub Registrar Padmanabha Pillay for acquainting himself with the process of taking finger prints in the (brittle) to the District Registrar's Office Tinnevelly.

The notification forwarded with your letter has been to be published in the Gazette.

I have & c.,
(Sd.)
Diwan.

Registration Department,
Trivandrum,
8th November 1899.

No. 60

To

The Diwan of Travancore.

Sir,

With reference to correspondence noted in the margin regarding the postponment of the introduction of the system of taking finger-print owing to the non-arrival of the necessary apparatus from Calcutta, I have the honour to report that 15 sets of the apparatus have just been received from Messrs. J. Daws and Co. and to request therefore that I may be permitted to introduce the system from the 10th Karthigay next.

Enclosed I beg to submit for perusal and return Messrs. J. Daws and a letter expressing regret for the long delay.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
Director of Registration.

Trivandrum,
November 1899.

My dear Sir,

Adverting to my D. O. of the 14th August last and your reply thereto dated 15th Idem regarding the introduction of the system of recording finger-prints in Registration Offices, I beg to inform you that the Director of Registration reports that the apparatus (brittle) from Calcutta has only now arrived and requests sanction for introducing the system from the 1st Vrichigom proximo. I should recommend that H. H. the Maharaja may be pleased to

sanction the proposal.

(Sd.)
Palace.

Mrry.

M.C. Neelacanda Pillay.

Trivandrum,
August, 1899.

My dear Sir,

The Director of Registration reports that the apparatus required for the introduction of the system procuring finger prints in Registration Offices, sanctioned in your D.O. of the 19th *Ult.,* has not yet been received from Calcutta and recommends that the introduction of the system be referred to puruttasy 1075 instead of from the 1st Chingom 1075, originally sanctioned. I beg that H.H. may be pleased to sanction the proposal.

(Sd.)

M.R.Ry.

M. C. Neelacanda Pillai,

H. C. Trivandrum,
November 1899.

To

The Director of Registration,
Travancorc

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 60 dated 8' Instant, I have the honour to inform you that Government sanction your proposal to introduce the system of recording finger prints in Registration Office from the 1st Vrichigom proximo.

I have & c.,
(Sd.)
Diwan.

73. A LETTER FROM THE CENSUS COMMISSIONER GIVING HIS VIEWS ON A COMPLAINT MADE BY THE MOST REV. MARTHOMA METROPOLITAN REGARDING ENUMERATION

The letters cited here include the complaint made by Rev Marthoma Metropolitan against the omission in the Census enumeration rules of 1900 regarding the particulars of St. Thomas Syrians and its reply. It is stated in the complaint that specific mention should be made in the report of the sect to which a person belongs to avoid confusion. The Census Commissioner clarified that the remarks made were only by way of illustrations and that nothing wilful had been done to detract their status. From this document we get information about the various denomination in Christianity and their differences.

Maramun Church,
Aranmolay,
20th December 1900.

From

The Most Rev. Mar Thoma,
Syrian Metropolitan of Malabar.

To

The Diwan of Travancore,

Sir,

In the recent publication of "Rules regarding preliminary enumeration in connection with the Census of 1900" in part II and section 26, I regret to notice of a clause which runs thus:-

If a person be a Christian, enter the Sect to which he or she belongs, as Protestant, Roman Catholic, Syrian etc. The term Syrian as a sect of religion

should not be confounded with the 'Syrian' as a race. A person belonging to the Syrian race may belong to the Roman Catholic, Protestant or Syrian Church. The persons belonging to the last named church are generally called Jacobite Syrians, which entirely omits the St. Thomas Syrians, a section of the Syrian Church.

This omission may be due to slip, and if so it is a serious slip amounting to a wilful omission on the part of the authorities; for in contending for accuracy when they give caution to the enumerators in every section and page of the new publication to note down the isolated individuals and communities which are insignificant compared with the St. Thomas Syrian community that they should forget a sect of religionists who are known throughout Christendom t d whose position in Travancore, Cochin and British States is acknowledged by the authorities of these states, is nothing short of a blunder.

Sir, it is painful to learn from the book published by the Travancore Government with the signature of the Diwan of Travancore whose knowledge of the position of this section of the Syrian Church cannot for a moment be doubted owing to circumstances hardly necessary to be reiterated here, that the St. Thomas Syrian Church which has an accredited independent existence, enjoys its own jurisdiction, and has hither to held its own against all opposition should be thus ignored or merged into its rival, the Jacobite Church.

It is, I believe, not likely that a community headed by three metrans and hundreds of clergy and holding over a hundred thousand souls, among whom are not a few of the most learned, most enlightened, and most loyal of the Christian population of these States and brought into prominence by, several recent circumstances, should easily escape anyone's notice.

Hoping that I shall not be put to the trouble of applying to anyone else for the correction of this error in the rules.

I remain,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Marthoma Malabar,
Metropolitan.

No. 359

Census Commissioner's Office,
Trivandrum 29th December 1900

From

The Census Commissioner, Travancore.

To

The Diwan of Travancore.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your endorsement No. G. 2862, dated the 25" Instant on a telegram received from the most Reverend Mar Thoma and your further endorsement No. G. 2882 herewith returned dated the 27th Instant on a detailed letter addressed by the same gentleman, complaining against the omission to refer to the Section of Syrian Christians called the St. Thomas Syrians, in the instructions issued by Government in connection with the forthcoming census.

2. The Instructions do not of course, nor do they profess to give an exhaustive list of the various sections of Christians and Government instead of intending to withhold recognition for census purposes from any class of Christians, go so far as to invite such of them as can write, to enter the name of their sect themselves (vide sub para 3 of column 3, section 26 of the Instructions to Enumerators regarding preliminary Enumeration). If the objection to the rules, which the Reverend Metropolitan has urged, be to the statement "that the persons belonging to the last named church are in generally called Jacobite Syrians", he may be assured that it was put in only by way of illustration, and that nothing wilful has been done to detract from the position or dignity of his congregation. Without wishing to open up a controversy on this subject, it may be permissible to state that the Syrian Church, excluding the Romanist and the Protestant developments therefrom, having been originally a Jacobite Church and counting among its adherents a large number of His Highness subjects, that name suggested itself for purposes of illustrative reference more readily than any other which too would have been quite in place.

3. After a careful study of the last Census Reports of Travancore, Madras and Indian I find that for incorporation in the final census tables no further sub

division of non-Romanist and non-Protestant Syrian Christians like that into Jacobite Syrians and St. Thomas Syrians, has been attempted, both of them having been placed in the general category of Syrian Christians. I am no yet quite convinced as to the necessity of departing from this course at the ensuing census.

4. In this connection I beg to refer you to my letter No. 289 dated the 3rd Instant in which I have specially asked that the heads of the various Christian bodies be written to, to issue the necessary instructions to their respective congregations for the sect of religion being correctly returned by the persons enumerated and to suggest that the Most Reverened Mar Thoma may be referred to any instructions which Government may have already issued on the subject.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant,

(Sd.)

Census Commissioner, Travancore.

74. APPOINTMENT OF AIYAPPAN PILLAI AS EDUCATIONAL SECRETARY AND RAJA RAJA VARMA AS INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS

Kerala is considered to be the most advanced State in India particularly in the field of education. Even in the thirties of the nineteenth century English education took roots in this part of the country. This letter deals with the appointment of two higher officials, viz. Educational Secretary and Inspector of Schools in order to look after the smooth functioning of the same in modern lines.

Palace, Trivandrum,
15th May 1901.

My Dear Sir,

In reply to your D.O. of the 14th instant I beg to inform you that in consequence of Dr. Mitchells resignation of his office of Educational Secretary to Government His Highness the Maharajah has been pleased to sanction the appointment of Mr. P. Aiyyappan Pillai, B.A. Inspector of Schools, Southern Range as Secretary to the Dewan, Educational Department on Rs.400 per mensem and of Mr. M. Raja Raja Varma M.A., Assistant to the Educational Secretary as Inspector on probation for one year vice Mr. Aiyyappan Pillai on Rs. 200 per mensem both the appointments to take effect from the 1st June proximo as recommended. The rules forwarded therewith defining the powers of the Educational Secretary also sanction.

I am,
My dear sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Sd.)

75. STATE MANUAL PAPERS-OBTAINING OF CERTAIN IMPORTANT RECORDS FROM THE CHIEF SECRETARIAT, FORT, ST. GEORGE.

There is difference of opinion among scholars regarding the reliability of the 'State Manuals' as they are being written under Royal Command. They are generally under the impression that the works were prepared to satisfy the interest of the ruling monarch by using secondary sources. But the Travancore State Manual written by Nagamaiah, the Cochin state Manual written by C. Achyuta Menon and more than all the Travancore Manual written by T. K. Velu Pillay will show that they are great works of historical study based on researches and presenting the several features of the States in all good faith. Of course progress of historical research will result in finding out more relevant facts and this is clearly seen in a comparison of Nagamaiah's Manual and Velu Pillay's work. Here we are noting a few facts only about Nagamaiah's work. They will show the nature of the work carried out and the problems they faced in preparing it.

This work although superseded by Velu Pillay's Manual has its own value to the students of history. Here the records examined by Nagamaiah for the purpose of the Manual relate to the British period. Needless to say that he collected information from other sources also.

No.G.I327

From

MRRY
Nagamya AvI.

Dt. 1-5-02
3-5-02

Sub: - Requests to as the British Government to give permission to take extracts from the Chief manuscripts and records in the Chief Secretariat, Fort St. George in connection with the preparation of the State Manual.

To

British Resident.

Dt. 5-5-02

Trivandrum,
1st May, 1902

My Dear Sir,

I beg to annex below a list of the chief manuscripts and other records in the Chief Secretariat, Fort St. George, which will be of material use to me in the preparation of the State Manual. I request that the British Resident may be requested to move the Madras Government to permit us to take extracts from them. I shall depute a suitable clerk, for the purpose. The Residency Records have been already examined by me, as the Resident kindly permitted the same.

I remain

My Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Sd.)

List:

1. Anjengo Factoy diaries.
2. Tellicherry Factory diaries.
3. Letter books relating to Travancore and Malabar.
4. Press List index of old records.

MRRY

K. Krishna Swamy Row,

C. I. E. , Dewan Bahadur,

Dewan of Travancore.

No.2529
G.1097

To

British Resident
dt. 5th May, 02.

Sub :- Requests him to move the Madras Government to permit a Subordinate of the Government to examine and take extracts from certain records in the Chief Secretariat, Fort St. George for the publication of the Travancore State Manual.

Trivandrum
May, 02.

My dear Sir,

Mr. V. Nagamaiah, who has been entrusted with the work of bringing out a Travancore State Manual, has submitted a list, copy annexed of the Chief manuscripts and other records in the Chief Secretariat, Fort St. George, which he says will be of material use to him. If you see no objection I shall feel obliged by your kindly moving the authorities concerned to accord permission to take extracts from them. A subordinate of this State will be deputed for the purpose, on hearing from you.

Iam,
My Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,

To

G.T. Mackenzie Esqu., I.C. S.,
British Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

List

1. Anjengo Factory diaries.
2. Tellicherry Factory diaries.
3. Letter books relating to Travancore and Malabar.
4. Press List index of old records.

Resident's Office
Trivandrum,
24th September, 02.

Ref: on C.No. 2293

From

The Hon'ble Mr. G.T. Mackenzie I. C. S.,
Resident in Travancore & Cochin.

To

The Dewan of Travancore.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated 5th May last, I have the honour to inform you that my Government regret their inability to permit a Travancore subordinate to have access to the old Secretariat records as, from their condition, these records required the handling of the trained experts of the Record Office. The Government will however be glad to place at the disposal of the Darbar a set of the "press lists of ancient records" and to arrange for the supply in the usual manner, of copies of such documents as may be selected

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant,
(Sd.)
Resident.

Resident's Office,

Trivandrum,
20th January '03.

Ref: on C. No. 2877.

From

The Asst. Resident,
Travancore and Cochin.

To

The Dewan of Travancore.

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 6869/ G.2705 dated 13th November last, I have the honour to forward herewith the accompanying "Press lists of ancient records" received from my Government and to request that such papers as you may require may be marked therein and the lists sent back to me so as to enable me to apply for copies thereof.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
Asst. Resident.

Trivandrum,
June '03.

My Dear Sir,

With reference to your D.O. dated the 20th April last I send herewith copy of letter No.C.956 dated 11th ultimo from the British Resident suggesting the desirability of reducing the number of records selected by you to be obtained from Fort St. George. I request you will be good enough to revise the list accordingly and send up a fresh list. The number of the selected documents of which copies may be required should be reduced as much as possible.

The list received with your letter above quoted is herewith returned.

I am etc.,

MRRY

V. Nagam Aiya Avl.,
Settlement Dewan Peishcar,
In charge, State Manual.

C.956

Resident's camp Office,
Peermade, 11th May 1903

From

G.T. Mackenzie Esqu. I.C.S.,
Resident in Travancore & Cochin.

To

The Dewan of Travancore.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter No. 2401 dated 23rd April 1903 enclosing a list of 338 documents in the record room of Fort St. George of which copies are desired.

2. The cost of preparing copies of these 338 documents will be very great and I fear that when this lengthy list is placed, before my Government they will be of opinion that no descrimination whatever has been used by Mr. Nagam Aiyar in the selection of these documents.

3. I return the typed list and I beg that you will glance through it. In the cast majority of these 338 items the heading gives as much information as is required in the compilation of a Travancore Manual and the cost of preparing copies seems to be utterly unnecessary. Other items are so vital that it cannot be necessary to transcribe them at length. For instance, does Mr.Nagam Aiyar really require a copy of the following documents? "Note of the firing of the usual dalute on the departure of the king of Travancore to the North." I am afraid that if this list is sent up to Madras it will produce an unfavourable impression.

4. There are a few documents on the list which may on perusal give interesting information. As an instance of such documents I would point out No.5354 dated 13th September 1758, "Proceedings of select committee re-letter from Anjengo relating to Royal succession in Travancore and the relation of the Company with the new King." If a selection of these documents can be made from this list, I shall be glad to submit it to my Government and to ask if there is any objection to giving copies of them.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.)

Resident.

Ref: No.3244.
End: 40.

Resident's Office
Circuit Quilon,
21st December 1903.

From

G.T. Mackenzie Esq., I. C. S.,
Resident of Travancore & Cochin.

To

The Diwan of Travancore.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter C. No. 2765, dated 21st October 1903, I have the honour to forward herewith copies of all the documents required by Mr. Nagam Aiyar for the State Manual received from my Government.

2. The copying fees amount to Rs.14-6-0 which I request may be remitted to me at your early convenience.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.
(Sd.)
Resident.

Palace, Trivandrum
26 December, 1903.

My Dear Sir,

In reply to your D.O of the 24th Instant I beg to inform you that His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to sanction the payment of British Rs. (14-6-0) fourteen and annas six into the Resident's Treasury, Trivandrum on account of copying fees of records obtained from Fort St. George at the instance of Mr. Nagamier in connection with the preparation of the State Manual.

The enclosures are herewith returned.

I am,

My dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.)

MRRY

Dewan Bahadur

K. Krishnaswamy Rao Avl.,

C & E.,

Dewan of Travancore.

76. ORIGIN OF S.N.D.P. YOGAM

The Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam (S.N.D.P.) had celebrated its Plattinum Jubilee in 1978. Reproduced below is the correspondence which led to the Registration of the Yogam as a Company under the Indian Companies Act (Act II of 1882).

Trivandrum,
8th January, 1903.

To

The Dewan of Travancore,
Trivandrum.

Most Respected Sir,

We beg to submit herewith copies of the memorandum and articles of Association of "The Aruvipuram Sri Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam" which has been lately started in Aruvipuram, Ayayil Desam, Perumkadavila Adhikaram, Neyyattinkaray Taluq. The main subject with which the Association in started is as will be seen from the enclosures, to promote and to encourage religious and secular education and industrious habits among the Elava Community, which being a charitable purpose and not for distribution of profits. We beg you will be pleased to issue a license under section 26 of Regulation I of 1063 (The Indian Companies Act II of 1882) to the Registrar of Joint, Stock Companies to have this Association registered as a Company with limited liability but without the addition or the word "Limited" to its name.

We beg to remain,
Most respected Sir,
Your most obedient servant
(Sd.)
P. P ARAMESWARAN,
PETTAH,
TRIVANDRUM.

The Dewan of Travancore,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

The enclosed papers were received by me with your No. 288/J. 117 of Yesterday's date.

You will note that what is sent to you are *Copies only* of a Memorandum and Articles of an Association lately started to promote and encourage religious and secular education and industrious habits among the Elava Community and that the signatories apply for Issue of a license under section 26 of Regulation. I of 1063, (The Indian Companies Act II of 1882) to have their Association registered as a Company with limited liability but without the addition of the word "limited" and on payment of a fee of 5 Rs. as provided form Table C of our schedule of fees as amended by Government dated 29th March 1899 for registration of Companies formed for religious or charitable purposes. What has to be done now is for Government if it is of opinion from the copy of the proposed Memorandum and Articles submitted that the Association comes within the purview of the provision of section 26 to issue a license to me as requested and intimate same to the applicants who I presume will then appear before me with the original Memorandum and Articles of Association duly stamped and otherwise conforming to the requirements of the Act when their Association will be duly registered and they will acquire all the privileges afforded under the regulation.

The following Companies have been so registered viz. Trivandrum Public Library 8th November 1894 (ceased to exist as a Company).

Trivandrum Friend in Need Society 14th December 1894.

The Mar Dionyouis Seminary 7th December 1898.

For easy reference I enclose copies of licenses issued to me with your letters dated 1-11-1894, 15-11-1894 and 1-12-1898 respectively in the above 3 cases which were all before the amended rules came into force.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

Letter dated 17 March 1903 from the acting Dewan Peishkar, Trivandrum to the Dewan of Travancore

Ref:- on C. No. 664 of 1078.

Division Cutcherry,
Trivandrum,
17th March, '03.

From

The Acting Dewan Peishkar,
Trivandrum.

To

The Dewan of Travancore,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 906/G. 366 dated the 19th ultimo, forwarding for report an application from one P. Parameswaran and others for registering the Aruvipuram Sri Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam as a limited company but without the addition of the word "Limited," I have the honour to forward herewith copy of the Tahsildar's report with enclosure.

The object of the company appears to be to promote religious and charitable institutions. The profits or other income of the Association, it is stated, will be applied in promoting its objects and not divided among its members.

In the circumstances, I think, the application may be granted.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
Acting Dewan Peishkar.

Letter dated 21-3-1903 from the Dewan to the Registrar of

Joint Stock Companies

No. G.

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum,
March, '03.

To

The Registrar,
Joint Stock Companies.

Sir,

With reference to correspondence noted in the margin, I have, the honour to send herewith copy of a license issued in favour of the 'Aruvipuram Sri Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam' and to inform you that Government direct under Section 60 of the Indian Companies Act (Regulation I of 1063) that the fee, to be paid by the Company for registration, be B. Rs. (5) five.

(Sd.)

21-3-1903. *Dewan.*

Letter 15 May 1903 from the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies to the Dewan

No.3

Office of the Registrar of
Joint Stock Companies,
Trivandrum,
15 May, 1903.

To

The Dewan of Travancore,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

I beg to report that in conformity with your No. 1832/G. 712 dated the 28th March 1903 that I have this day registered the "Aruvipuram Sri Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam" Association as a limited Company under your license dated the 28th March 1903 and now forward you copy of my certificate of incorporation and receipt for the fee levied B. Rs.5 in pursuance to your letter under reference and which sum of B. Rs. 15. I now send you and shall thank you to kindly acknowledge same.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies,
Travancore.

77. CONNEMERA MARKET-IMPROVEMENTS SUGGESTED

Trivandrum has been famous from very early days as a city of cleanliness and good sanitation. The main reason for this is the natural drainage. But the Government and the people also paid proper attention in this matter. The setting up of a Town Improvement Committee was for this purpose. The following letters deal at length with facilities provided in the Connemera Market, Trivandrum.

The housing of shops leased out to the dealers, directions to the health officer to examine the animals before being slaughtered are matters of topical interest even now.

Trivandrum,
February, 1903.

My dear Sir,

I request you will be good enough to send me a copy of the Rules of the Connemera Market which seems to me, require modification-under the clause permitting stall holders to keep servants, there are many abuses, and the prohibition against the sub-letting of stalls is evaded thereby-I request to be favoured with any suggestions you have to make in this matter.

(Sd.)
Sincerely,
C. M. MADHAVAN PILLAI,
President, T. I. C.
(Sd.)

17-12-1903.

No. V.S.

H. C.
Trivandrum,
March '03.

To

The President,
T. I. C., Trivandrum

Sir,

Sub :- Opening of a Cattle-Pound in the premises of the Connemera Market-

With reference to your letter No. 100 dt. the 5th instant, I have the honour to inform you that Government see no necessity for a Cattle-Pound in the Connemera market, as there is one near the General Hospital, hardly a mile away.

I have etc.,
(Sd.)
Dewan

16-3-1903

Office of the Health Officer,
Trivandrum, 9th April '03.

No. 202

To

The President,
Town Improvement Committee,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

With reference to your Memo No. 206 dated 6th instant, I have the honour to report that I inspected the market on the 7th instant. The market premises and the drain were specially cleaned and petty traders who were asked to trade in an enclosed place on the South-Eastern portion of the market.

As the drains and stalls, where mutton and beef are sold, have to be flushed, I request you to be good enough to arrange for the entertainment of four coolies on Rs. 5 each for flushing and the following suggestions are to be carried out as early as practicable.

(2) The mutton is sold at western entrance of the market and is exposed for public view. I recommend to transfer the sale of mutton to stalls on the southern portion of the market.

(3) A special scavenger on Rs. 7 per month for cleaning the latrine should be immediately appointed.

(4) Bad and decomposed fish is offered for sale and full powers should be given to me for preventing the sale and destroying of the same.

(5) The animals which are to be slaughtered should be first examined by me and meat should be passed as "Sound" before they are offered for sale in the market.

(6) A dozen buckets and a water cart are required.

In conclusion I beg to add, that, unless I am authorised to carry out these suggestions in full, nothing except the general cleanliness of the place can be

attended.

The European population complain not about the insanitary condition of the place but about the bad quality of meat, beef and other articles of diet sold in the market.

An early order is awaited.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
B. KESAVA RAO,
Agricultural Health Officer.
(Sd.)
President.

No. V. S.

H.C.
Trivandrum,
July '03.

To

The President,
T. I. C.,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge herewith receipt of your letter No. 422 dated the 25th ultimo forwarding the committee's Resolutions regarding certain improvements to be introduced into the Connemera Market.

No.1. The Health Officer may as recommended, to directed to arrange

for the stalls and the drains being kept clean by the stall holders themselves.

NOS. 2 & 3. No extra allotment could be sanctioned for the supply of the water cart and buckets and for the entertainment of the additional hands, as their requested provision should he found for these from savings in the Budget.

No.4. The Health Officer may be directed to exercise his powers, as Health Officer to examine animals before being slaughtered and meat before same, pending the consideration of these questions along with the rules for the Regulation of slaughter houses.

I have etc.,
(Sd.)
Dewan.

Trivandrum,
12 February '03.

My Dear Sir,

I understand the one Rowther, a stall-holder in the Connemera Market has made it his special business to carry on the work of a Shroff in his staff providing change for a Rupee at high discount. It appears there are several others also who carry on this trade.

I request you will issue a notice at once to Rowther that on the expiry of his present lease, he will not be granted any stall in the market.

The names of other stall-holders who carry on a like trade should be obtained immediately from the market sergeant and submitted to this office. Mr. Regal should be strictly warned to submit an accurate report.

I am,
My dear Sir,
Yours faithfully.

To

Mr. R. Ry

C. M. Madhavan Pillay
President
Town Improvement Committee
Trivandrum.

Trivandrum,
February '03.

My Dear Sir,

I shall be obliged by your kindly obtaining for me a copy of the rules in force regarding the management and working of the "Moore Market" at Madras.

(Sd.)

To

Mr. Mackenzie Esq.,
British Resident.

Trivandrum,
February, 1903.

My Dear Sir,

I understand that one Sheik lbram Ismail Rowther Pillay, servant of holder of stall No. 1 in the Connemera Market has made it his special business to carry on the work of a Shroff in the above said stall, charging heavy discount. He should be forthwith ejected from the market under clause of the rules and stalls will be leased to him or her in future and the stall holder given notice that now appears also that there are several others who carry on this traffic. If they are not stall-holders they should be expelled at once. If they have licences for stalls, notices should be at once issued to them that on the expiry of their leases, they will not be allowed to hold any stall in the market in future.

It is also reported that some of the stall- holders are notorious characters, notably are Konan Kesavan, a released convict, another man who goes by

the nickname of Their conduct should be carefully watched by the market sergeant. Stalls should not be leased out to people whose character and antecedents are bad.

The market sergeant should be directed to submit at once a list of questionable characters and those who traffic and exchange and notices should be issued to all of them that they will not be permitted to occupy stalls in future on the expiry of these leases.

I request you will take action in this matter as President without waiting for a reference to the Committee. Prompt action is necessary to instil fear into the people.

I understand further Rowther referred to who was the late contractor for the standing owes some money on account of balance due on this contract. Please let me know what steps you have taken to recover this liability.

I request an early reply reporting the action taken.

(Sd.)

To

M.R.Ry.
C.M. Madhavan Pillay
President,
T.I. C.

dated 12-2-1903

No.2

Huzur Cutcherry,

First January, '03.

To

The President,
Town Improvement Committee,
Thiruvananthapuram.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. I033 dated 27 ultimo forwarding a resolution of the committee that as an experiment for the next six months the standing in the Connemera market be kindly let on hire to petty traders and that a sum of Rs. 6 be appointed to assist the Sergeant in collecting the hire, I have the honour to request you will be good enough to let me know the reasons for suggesting a depature from the practice there to be followed.

(Sd.)

21/1951/92/MC- (a)

78. A RULER'S VIEW ON OFFICIAL INTERFERENCE

Reproduced below is an extract from the Personal Diary of Sir Rama Varma (1895-1914), the Abdicated Raja of Cochin pertaining to the year 1903 which distinctly protrays his views on the question of unnecessary interference with the Heads of Departments. It may be remembered here that Mr. Brown, was the Chief Engineer of Cochin during the period.

12-3-1903.

D. O. work from II to 12. Current work from 1 to 2. Saw Mr. Brown at 4 and was engaged with him on several business points till 5.50. He told me some instances in which the Dewan, he said unnecessarily interfered in some of the minor details of his department. I always think that the best policy is to select proper persons for the important places and to give them a free hand in all details and thus make him fully responsible for them. The Dewan will also previously consult the heads of departments not as a matter of necessity but as a courtesy and safety in all important matters relating to the departments concerned. Of course the Dewan being finally responsible for the whole administration, he should have full liberty to act as he thought best. I at the same time think the less he will interfere with them the better. If at any time the Durbar sees that a particular officer dues not deserve its full confidence, that the best policy will be to send him away. If we do not allow him certain degree of authority and liberty of action he will be next to useless and the interests of the department to which he belongs will suffer in the long run. It felt myself in a very delicate position, for I knew that if matters are not set a right at the proper time they might get into a hopelessly dangerous condition which of course cannot be allowed. But I could not take any action on the information, because I received it in an informal way and also confidentially. I resolved to do nothing in the matter until I considered it very carefully.

79. RULES PRESCRIBED FOR THE CONDUCT OF 'SMARTHAVICHARAM'

The Record produced below will be of immense interest particularly to students of History and Sociology. It relates to an old custom which was prevalent in Kerala among Namboodiri Brahmins for conducting trial of women accused of conjugal infidelity. It was of a particular nature, as the trial was conducted not in a court of law, but by *Smartha Brahmins* versed in *Smrithlaws*.

The sanction of the ruler had to be obtained for conducting the trial. This custom had its genesis in the anxiety of Namboodiri's to preserve their social purity. If the verdict is against the woman she is exorcised and she ceases to be a member of the family.

During the beginning of the last century this question assumed proportions which called for the anxious consideration of the ruler. The following is an order of the Maharaja of Cochin dated 7th June 1905.

The following rules are prescribed for regulating in future the conduct of Smarthavicharams.

1. The constitution and appointment of the Smarthavicharum Sabha, the examination of the Sadhanam, her acquittal (അഴിവ ചൊല്ലുക) or her excommunication (സ്വരൂപം ചൊല്ലുക) shall be regulated and conducted according to the existing custom and procedure; but the substance of her examination shall be reduced to writing and the writing authenticated by the smarthan.

2. A notice signed by the purakoima shall be served as hereinafter provided on each person named by the Sadhanam in her examination as having had carnal intercourse with her-requiring him to appear in person before the smarthavicharam sabha on the day and at the hour and place therein specified and answer the imputation made against him:

Provided that if the Sabha consider that the imputation made by the

Sadhanam against a particular person is malicious or unfounded no such notice be sent to him and it will also be competent to the Sabha to direct the postponement of the issue of such notice until they consider that the notice ought to be issued.

3. The notice aforesaid shall contain a concise statement of the approximate time or the occasion when, and the place at which, according to the allegations made by the Sadhanam in her examination he had carnal intercourse with her, and the notice shall also require him to produce on the day fixed in the notice all the evidence which he may wish to adduce in disproof of the imputation made against him.

4. The day for the attendance of the person shall be fixed by the purakoima with reference to the time-requisite for the service of the notice and the time-requisite for the appearance of the person.

5. The service of the notice shall be made by a special messenger.

6. If any case the person to whom the notice has been issued cannot be found the notice may be served on an agent of such person or on an adult-member of his family.

7. Service of notice shall ordinarily be made by delivering or tendering to the person named in the notice, his agent or an adult member of his family a copy of the notice signed by the purakoima.

8. When the serving messenger delivers or tenders a copy of the notice personally to the person therein named or to his agent or an adult-member of his family he shall require the signature of the person to whom the copy is delivered or tendered in acknowledgement of the service on the original notice and if the said individual refuses to sign the acknowledgement or if the notice cannot be served personally on the person or some adult member of the family or on his agent or if the serving messenger is satisfied on due enquiry that there is reason to believe that the person is keeping out of the way for the purpose of avoiding the service, the serving messenger shall affix a copy of the notice in some conspicuous part of his residence and then return the original with an endorsement thereon stating the time when and the circumstances under which the notice was served, together with his own affidavit of service. The serving messenger shall if practicable get the said endorsement signed by two or more respectable persons in the neighbourhood.

9. If the person to whom the notice is issued resides out of the Cochin State and he has no agent or adult member of his family within the Cochin State on whom the service can be effected the notice shall be addressed to him at the place of his usual residence and forwarded by registered post.

10. A notice sent by registered post under rule 9 shall be deemed to have been sufficiently served upon the addresses notwithstanding that the same is returned by the postal department or there was an agent of the addressee or any adult member of his family with the Cochin State on whom it could have been served.

11. On the day fixed for hearing, the person to whom notice has been issued shall, if he appears, be examined and the substance of his statement recorded and authenticated by the Smarthan after the substance of the statement which had been made by the Sadhanam and reduced to writing under rule I had been read out to him so far as such statement related to him.

12 The person to whom notice has been issued shall, if he appears and makes his statement provided in the last preceding rule, he allowed on opportunity to examine the Sadhanam with reference to her statement concerning him by putting questions to her through the smarthan and also to examine his own witness and tender such documentary evidence as he may produce, and the substance of the statements made by the sadhanam and by the witness shall be reduced to writing and the writing authenticated by the smarthan. Provided that it shall be competent to the smarthan to disallow questions proposed to be put to the sadhanam or witness which he may consider to be irrelevant or vexatious.

13. No adjournment beyond the date fixed in the notice shall be granted unless the smarthan be satisfied that such adjournment is necessary in the interest of justice.

14. If the person summoned does not attend on the date fixed the smarthavicharam Sabha will dispose of the matter exparte.

15. The functions and duties of the different members of the smarthavicharam Sabha in conducting an enquiry into the imputation made by the Sadhanam against the person summoned to appear before the Sabha and reporting thereon shall be the same as in the case of the sadhanam according to the existing custom and procedure.

16. Any person to whom a notice has been issued under rule 2 may on the report of the smarthavicharam Sabha be subjected to the penalties of *swaroopamchollal* and such report shall be made as part of the report concerning the Sadhanam.

17. Notwithstanding anything contained in the foregoing rules it shall be competent to His Highness to revoke any order of SwaroopamchollalI if the person subjected to the penalty of Swaroopamchollal subsequently establishes his innocence to the satisfaction of His Highness.

R.V.

7.6.05

80. COMMEMORATION OF THE SYNOD OF DIAMPER HELD IN THE CHURCH AT UDAYAMPERUR-SANCTIONING OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE SAME

The Sectarian dissension amongst the Christian communities in Kerala has a historical antiquity. The Portuguese during their sway here supported Roman Catholocism against the Syrian Christians of Kerala. This attempt had far-reaching consequences. It was this religious bigotry that worked behind the synod of Diamper in which certain restrictions were imposed on the syrians. The synod was convened at Udayamperur (Diamper) in 1599 under the Chairmanship of Alexis De Menezes, Arch Bishop of Goa.

But all these restrictions were overthrown by the Syrian Christians in the Oath of Coonen Cross (1653).

During the beginning of the twentieth century the erstwhile Travancore Government took an important decision to protect the historical relics of the State. The document cited here relates to the installation of copper plate at the Romo Syrian Church, Udayamperur, Vaikam, where the synod was conducted.

POLITICAL SECTION

Reference: Letter No. 36 dated 7th February 1908 from the President Historical Relics Preservation Committee

Subject: Discovery of the Site of the famous synod of Diamper.

The President of the Historical Relics Preservation Committee states that *the committee has for sometime been engaged in the work of finding out the site of the famous synod of Diamper* which forms an important landmark in the history of Christian churches in Malabar and the Christianity in India generally and that as a result of its labours it has been able to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion in fixing it at the Romo-Syrian church of all Saints at

Udayamperur in the Vyikome Taluq. The President notes with satisfaction that such eminent Ecclesiastical authorities as His Lordship the Roman Catholic Bishop of Cochin and His Lordship the Syrian Metropolitan of Travancore & Cochin are in perfect accord with the views of the Committee. In the circumstances the committee suggests that a brass plate with a suitable inscription may be put up to mark the site and proposes to submit a draft inscription should the Government approve of the suggestion.

The suggestion may be approved.

(Sd.)
11-2-1908.

Dewan Peishcar's Office,
Kottayam, 8th September 1908.

From

The Dewan Peishcar,
Kottayam Division.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 482 dated 8th June 1908, I have the Honour to inform you that the Tahsildar of Vycome reports that the Brass plate with the inscription in commemoration of the site of the Synod of Diamper has been put up. The completion will for the work done amounting to Rupees Nineteen and Chuckrams fourteen is herewith orwarded for sanction of Government.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
(Sd.)
Dewan Peishcar.

H. C. Trivandrum
8th June 1908.

To

The Dewan Peishcar,
Kottayam.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. $\frac{2147}{734}$ dated the 7th ultimo, I have the honor to inform you that Government sanction an expenditure of Sr. Rs. (19-14-0) nineteen and Chuckrams fourteen as per estimate therewith received for putting up a brass plate with inscription in commemoration of the site of the Synod of Diamper.

The plate should be put up on the front side of the building. A report should be made to Government when the work is completed.

I have

Ag. Chief Secretary to Government.

No. $\frac{483}{D}$ dated 8-6-1908 copy forwarded to the Secretary to Government to the Department of Finance and Accounts for information.

For C. S. to Govemment.

Palace, Trivandrum,
27th May 1908.

My dear Sir,

In reply to your D.O. dated the 25th Instant with enclosures (herewith returned) I beg to inform you that His Highness the Maharajah has been Pleased to sanction the expenditure of Sr. Rs.(19-14-0) nineteen and chuckrams fourteen for putting up a brass plate with a suitable inscription in

commemoration of the site of the synod of Diamper which has been fixed to be the Romo-Syrian church of All Saints at Udayamperur in Vaikom Taluq.

I am my dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.)

Dewan Behadur,

P. Rajagopalachariar Esquire, M.A., B.L.,

Dewan of Travancore.

Trivandrum,

25th May 1908.

My dear Sir,

I enclose for submission to His Highness the Maha Rajah the correspondence noted at foot, regarding the commemoration of the site of the Synod of Diamper, which has been fixed to be the Romo-Syrian church of All Saints at Udayamperur in Vaikom Taluq. The Synod of Diamper is an important historical event, and the site deserve to be commemorated by putting up a brass plate with a suitable inscription. The cost for the work would come to Sr.Rs.(19-14) nineteen and chuckrams fourteen according to the estimate received from the Dewan Peishkar, Kottayam. I request that His Highness may be pleased to sanction the expenditure.

I am etc.,

Sarvadhikariakar,

Palace.

Dewan Peishcar's Office,

Kottayam,
7th May 1908.

From

The Dewan Peishcar,
Kottayam Division.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir,

As requested in your letter No. $\frac{333}{P}$ dated 11-4-1908, I have the honour to forward herewith an estimate amounting to Rs. (19-14-0) nineteen chuckrams fourteen for putting up a brass plate with a suitable inscription in commemoration of the site of the Synod of Diamper in Vaikom Taluq.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Sd.)

Dewan Peishcar.

H. C. Trivandrum,
11th April 1908.

To

The Dewan Peishkur
Kottayam.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that on the recommendation of the Historical Relics Preservation Committee, Government have decided to commemorate the site of the Synod of Diamper which has been fixed at the Romo-Syrian church of All Saints at Udayamperur in the Vaikom Taluq, by putting up a brass plate with a suitable inscription at a cost not exceeding Rs. (20) twenty, I annex at foot the draft inscription and request you will be so good as to send me an estimate for the work.

I have & c.,
Chief Secretary

The Synod of Diamper was held in this buildings on the 20th of June 1599.

By
Archbishop Menezos of Goa

H. C. Trivandrum,
21st March 1908.

To

The President,
Historical Relics Preservation Committee.

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 37 dated the 10th instant, I have the honour to inform you that Government approve of your suggestion to commemorate the site of the Synod of Diamper by putting up a brass plate at a cost not exceeding Rs. (20) twenty. The Dewan Peishkar, Kottayam will be addressed on the matter. I request you will be so good as to send me a draft inscription for the me morial.

I have
Chief Secretary to Government

Trivandrum,
10th March 1908.

From

The President, H. R. P. Committee.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 185/pol. dated 21-2-1908 I have the honour to inform you that, the cost of putting up a brass plate with suitable inscription to mark the site of the Synod of Diamper might come up to about Rs. 20 (Twenty) and would not exceed it.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd).
President.

H. C. Trivandrum,
21st February 1908.

To

The President,
Historical Relics Preservation Committee.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 36 dated the 7th instant, suggesting the commemoration of the Synod of Diamper by putting up a brass plate with a suitable inscription, I have the honour to request you will be so good as to let me have an idea of the sort for the same.

I have
Chief Secretary to Government.

81. INSTITUTION OF SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SANSKRIT STUDIES

Years ago the Cochin Government had instituted scholarships for the development of Sanskrit education. The Government Order on the subject is reproduced below:

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIWAN OF COCHIN

Local and Legislation Department
Education

Read against Sarvarikarikars A. No. 567/84 dated 20th March, 1910

Read also subsequent correspondence ending with his A. No. 1046/86 dated 9th May 1911.

ORDER DATED 16TH MAY 1911, REF.ON C.NO. 2720/86

The institution of the following scholarships for the development of Sanskrit Education is sanctioned for a period of 2 years as a temporary measure. The interest on the fund deposited in the Bank of Madras will be utilised for the purpose till a definite scheme is sanctioned for opening a Sanskrit College at Tripoonithura.

One scholarship of Rs. 30 per mensem will be awarded in Madras to a bonafide Cochin subject prosecuting his studies for the Oriental Titles Examination. Two scholarships of Rs. 8 each per mensem will be awarded to the 2 best students of the Vedasastra Patasala, Chittur.

The Special Educational Officer is requested to recommend suitable candidates. The first should be graduate with Sanskrit as his second language.

Arrangements will be made through the Registrar of the Madras University for the institution of the Sanskrit scholarship in Madras.

A. R. BANERJI,
Diwan.

To

The Special Educational Officer. The Comptroller of Accounts.
The Sarvadhikariakar
The Press Bureau
The Gazette.

82. APPOINTMENT OF A KORAN TEACHER.

It was in 1920 that a 'Koran Teacher' on a monthly salary of Rs. 6 was appointed in a Government Primary School at Kozhinjampara (erstwhile Cochin State) for teaching 'Koran' for two hours in the morning, prior to the commencement of regular classes. Reproduced below is the correspondence that led to this appointment.

No. 53/95

Sirkar Primary School,
Kozhinjampara,
24-3-1095.

From

C. V. Sivarama Aiyar,
Headmaster.

To

The Deputy Inspector of Schools,
Northern Division.

Sir,

I beg to report that more than half the strength of our school belong to Muhamodan set. A Koran School is also going on here. Nearly 20 boys who read in our school, attend the Koran school and generally come late. When I made enquiries about their unpunctuality, the guardians represented to me that they meant sending their children to Koran School, for the matter is unavoidable for them. Then I satisfied them by telling that the Koran education could be introduced in our school and advised to send the children to our institution only.

Further they accompanied by some more Muhamodans of the locality showed me an order, as their reply for their petition to the Director of Education for the introduction of Koran Education in our school that "the matter has been received the consideration of the Government, as per Memo.

R.O.F.No.70/95 dated 3-9-1119," of the Director of Education.

If Koran teaching is introduced here there will be a great benefit to the locality and prosperity for the school and it will enliven the spirit of the Muhamodans.

I beg to remain,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Sd.)

Headmaster.

R.O.C. No. 3345/85

To

The Secretary to the Diwan,
Local & Legislative Department.

Sir,

I have the honour to bring to the Diwan's kind notice the necessity for the appointment of a Koran teacher in the U.P.S. Kozhinjampara. The Muhammadan inhabitants of Kozhinjampara, put in a petition to me for the appointment of a Koran teacher, pointing out the necessity early in 1095, and their request has to be considered sympathetically. Koran teachers have been sanctioned where there are a sufficient number of Muhammadan children viz.

A.U.P.S. Eriyad (2)
A.U.P.S. Cheruthuruthy (3)
U.P.S. Azhikode.

Under the circumstance I request that Government will be pleased to accord sanction for the entertainment of a Koran teacher in this school also on a salary of Rs. 6 per mensem. Koran will be taught without disturbance to the regular school work.

I have etc.,

(Sd.)

Director of Education.

No. 156/95

Sirkar Primary SChool,
Kozhinjampara,
25-6-1095
10-2-1920

From

C. V. Sivarama Aiyar, Headmaster.

To

The Director of Education,
Through the Deputy Inspector of Schools, N.D.

Sir,

In obedience to that office Proceedings order dated 4th February 1920 C. No. 3345/95 I beg to submit that sanction has been accorded for Koran teaching in this school from 8-10 a.m. Accordingly the Koran teaching is begun today. Almost all the Muhamodan gentlemen of the locality were present on the occasion who were very glad at the introduction of Koran teaching, that they have promised to render as much help as their hands can reach towards the success of this school.

In this connection I beg to state that as the pupils have also to attend the school at 10 O' clock, I request that Koran may be taught from 7-9 in the morning, so that they may have an hour's time before them to take their breakfast and attend the school at 10 a.m. The pupils can as well attend the school at the required time, they being the local students only.

Further, I beg to submit, in anticipation of your kind sanction that I have arranged the Koran teaching to be begun from 7-9 a.m.

I beg to remain, Sir,
Your Most obedient Servant,
(Sd.)
Headmaster

83. EXILEMENT OF SWADESABHIMANI RAMAKRISNA PILLAI

The Proclamation ordering the deportation from Travancore of Swadesabhimani Ramakrishna Pillai, the famous journalist, patriot, writer, and orater is one which greatly provoked the patriotic spirit of the common man in Travancore and ultimately fanned a wild flame of public fury. Reproduced below is the full text of this proclamation, notorious for the high-handed action of the then ruler against the freedom of the Press.

PROCLAMATION

By

His Highness Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanchi Pala Sir Rama Varma Kulasekhara Kiritapati Manney Sultan Maha Raja Raja Ramaraja Bahadur Shamsher Jung, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, F.M.V., M.R.A.S., Officer De L' instruction publique Maharaja of Travancore, issued under date the 26th September 1910 corresponding to the 10th Kanni 1086.

Whereas we are satisfied that, in the public interests, the newspaper 'Swadesabhimani', published at Trivandrum should be supressed, and its Managing proprietor and Editor, K. Ramakrishna Pillai, removed from our Territory, we are hereby pleased to command that the aforesaid K. Rama Krishna Pillai shall be forthwith arrested and taken beyond the limits of our State, and that the aforesaid K. Ramakrishna Pillai shall not be allowed to return to or to re-enter our State, until and unless we are pleased to command otherwise. We are also pleased to command that all issues of the newspaper "Swadesabhimani" wherever found, and also the printing press at which the

said Newspaper "Swadesabhimani" has been printed, with all its accessories and appurtenances shall be forfeited to our Government. We are further pleased to command that no action, Civil or Criminal, shall lie against our Government, or any Officer of our Government, for any act done or purporting to be done, in pursuance or under the authority of our commands herein contained.

SIGN MANUAL

84. RESTRICTIONS ON FAIR SEX IN ATTENDING SCHOOLS

It would be interesting to recall that nearly eight decades ago in the Cochin Government School, Tripunithura lady teachers and girl students were not allowed to attend their classes during mensus.

No. 108

G.G. School,
Tripunithura,
6-6-1087
19-1-1912

From

V.P, Vizwanatha Iyer,
Headmaster.

To

The Chief Inspector of Schools,
Trichur.

Sir,

I have the honour to bring the following facts for your kind consideration.

The Spl. Edl. Officers order Ref. on C.No. 4339/86 dated 22-5-1911 state that pupils absent from the Annual Examination no matter what the cause may by, will not be promoted nor be allowed a subsequent examination.

Article 40 Chapter IV of the Education Code insist upon 300 attendances for a pupil to appear for the Annual Examination.

Here the mistresses and students while in their mensus are not allowed to attend school.

I request you to be good enough to let me know what I should do in the case of those girls who have to keep themselves away from appearing for the Annual Examination from natural causes. I think it will be hard if deserving girls are not given promotion solely for this reasons.

Some of the girls are wanting in their attendances owing to the same cause. I request you to be good enough to let me know what I should do in their cases also. I beg to state that these girls here deserve some concession as this is the only school where girls and mistresses are not allowed to attend school owing to natural causes.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
V.P. VISWANATHA IYER,
Headmaster

85. MINUTES OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE RAJAH OF COCHIN AND SIR RAMA VARMA

This conversation between the abdicated Rajah of Cochin and his successor indicates the difficulties faced by the latter in adjusting to his new status and in his relations with the Resident and High Officials of Government. This is a very important document showing the relationship between the Raja and Diwan and other officers in an erstwhile Native State.

MINUTES OF CONVERSATION
BETWEEN
THE RAJA AND MYSELF

1. The Rajah called on me at 4 p.m. today. The important points which were touched upon during the course of the conversation are given below:

2. The Rajah said that Mr. Forbes advised him that the Diwan being a member of the I.C.S., it would be safer for him (The Rajah) to accept all the proposals and advices the Dewan offered, and make him fully responsible for the conduct of the administration, so that, if anything went wrong the Rajah would not be to blame; and, he asked me whether he was bound to do so. I told him that the Rajah was, primarily responsible for the conduct of the administration, and that the Dewan was only his mouthpiece to carry out his orders. I advised him to act very cautiously when there was difference of opinion between him and the Dewan on important matters. He should said, give Dewan every chance of expressing his views fully and frankly, give him own views also in the same manner; and if even after this, the difference could not be made up, and if the Dewan had not any valid reason against his (The Rajah's) opinion, he could enforce his own. I, also, told him that it was very

essential that no one should have any chance of knowing that there was any difference of opinion between himself and the Dewan. The best course, therefore, would be to settle all such differences by personal discussion, or by means of confidential D.O. correspondence, and that official correspondence should be made only after both agreed. The Rajah said that he did not like discussing with the Dewan in person, but would settle matters by D.O. correspondences. The Rajah said that the Dewan always supported the heads of departments, some of which he did not approve of. My advise was that the Dewan must be given a free hand in all matters generally, but that the Rajah could always carry out his opinion if he had the connection that the Dewan was wrong, and he was correct. The Rajah then said that in certain matters he found the Dewan rather unyielding. I told him in reply that during my short experience of the Dewan I always found ·him very fair. He invariably changed his opinions in several matters when I satisfied him by personal discussion that he was not in the right, and that until specific instances were quoted it was not possible for me to give my opinion how far the Dewan's grounds were reasonable. The Rajah did not seem to be prepared to give special instances. He again said that Mr.Forbe's advice was always to support the Dewan. I said that I did not think that the advice was correct.

3. I asked the Rajah about the Sarvadh's sending an order to the Tripunithura Devaswom Inspector without his knowledge. The Amma Rajah had told me this as the Raja informed her and hence, I put the question to my greatest surprise, I heard from him that my information was quite true, and that he did not know that fact until he heard it from the Amma Rajah that such an order was sent from the Sarvadhi's office. I then asked him whether the Sarvadhi was questioned on the point, and what his explanation was. The Rajah said that he asked the Sarvadhi, but he did not give any answer, and that the matter stood there. I told the Rajah that every order that was issued from the Sarvadhi's office was in the Rajah's name, and that it would be a very dangerous thing if the Sarvadhi began to send such orders without his knowledge. I advised the Rajah to take serious notice of the misconduct which, I said, was quite adequate for summarily dismissing him from the service. I told him that even if he wished to deal with him leniently, a written explanation should be taken from him, and orders passed on it to the effect that his

misconduct, for which he had not valid explanation to offer, was so grave as to justify his summary dismissal from the service, but that he would taken a lenient view of the matter, and pardon him with a severe warning that if he behaved like that in future, he would forfeit his appointment. The man's conduct and the Rajah's failure to take notice of it have caused a good deal of confusion in my mind. So Damodaran, whom I have known closely for so many years, and though to be a very honest and reliable man, capable of such a grave miconduct is it possible to conceive that he did not realize the graveness of the crime: It is too plain for even a child to entertain any doubt. If he had any doubt as to how to proceed in the matter why did he not ask the Dewan about it? I can only say that the whole thing is a mystery to me.

4. The Rajah mentioned about the rule between the members of the Residential Palace and Mr. Davies. He was not able to give me full details of the matter. He gave me some points on which I gave my views. I thought from what the Rajah said that his own procedure was not quite correct. I gave him my views frankly. The warden also, did not, in my opinion, use his discretion and do his duty correctly. The Rajah said that the warden said different things at different times. The Rajah said that the Dewan had promised to do the needful in the matter quietly. I said that that was the proper thing.

5. The Rajah told me that the Durbar had deputed the D. Peishkar to co-operate with the Peishkar of Kottayam Division whom Travancore have appointed and who was drafting a scheme for exercising supervision over Thachudaya Kaimal's management of the Kuduamanikam Devaswom, and that the same would become final only after It was passed by the Rajah. The Rajah also told me of the other pending matters and at what stages they stood at present. With regard to the T. Kaimal question, I advised the Rajah prepared by Mr. Rajagopalachari, and our Dewan's remarks thereon, and to try his best to avoid every thing that would lead to dual control, and not to agree to any allowance to the Kaimal more than what was necessary to keep up his dignity and position as a "Sanyasi". These, I said, were the most important points in that question, and added that on no account should be give in so far as these points were concerned. I also gave my views on all points referred to me.

6. From his demeanor I thought that the Rajah was not likely to take notice of the Saravadhi's misconduct. The Rajah left me at 10 minute after 5 p.m.

Rama Varma

"Elk Hill"
Spring Field,
6th April, 1915.

86. HIGH COURT'S PROTEST AGAINST THE REMARKS OF THE RESIDENT IN A MURDER CASE

In Pre-Independence days the erstwhile State of Travancore was ruled by the Maharaja, but was under the suzerainty of the British Government who had established the authority throughout India. In Travancore there was a representative of the British Government, his designation was Resident or Political agent. The· transactions of the Resident and the Government were normally cordial but sometimes severely conflicting.

As the representative of the Suzerain power they exercised superior powers and went even to the extent of interfering with the Judiciary.

Given below is a protest of the High Court of Travancore against the interference of the Resident Braidwood in respect of a sentence of the High Court. In a murder case the punishment awarded by the High Court was life-imprisionment. The Resident decided that it should be extreme penalty.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE,
TRIVANDRUM.
Dated: 13th November 1917.

From

H.L. Braidwood, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

To

The Diwan of Travancore.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. J. 9010 dated 8th November 1917 forwarding for an expression of my views the judgement of the High Court in Referred case No. 11 of 1092 (calendar case No. 29 of 1092 on the file of the Parur Sessions Court) I have the honour to inform you that I consider the conviction to be undoubtedly correct. The reasons given for not awarding the

death sentence are however palpably inadequate. The murder was evidently a cold blooded and deliberate one fully deserving the extreme penalty and the omission of the lower and appellate Courts to award it in such a case clearly shows that they are influenced by personal predilections against the death sentence or in other words that they prefer their private opinions to the prescriptions of the Legislature. Further comment is needless.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Sd.)

Resident.

Confidential Trivandrum,

19th December 1917.

(Seal)

Dear Mr. Krishnan Nair,

In returning herewith the British Resident's letter (Dis. No. 1080/17 dated 13th November 1917 which you kindly forwarded for may perusal and return, with your D.O. No. J. 9296, dated 19th November 1917, I wish to say that my col1eagues and myself are grateful to you for having given us a chance of knowing the views of the British Resident as regards the sentence passed in the first instance by the Sessions Judge of Parur in case No, 29 of 1092 and confirmed by the High Court by its judgement in Referred Case No.1 I of 1092. Coming, as it does, from so distinguished a quarter, we entertain the highest respect for the opinion expressed there on but-and here, I am speaking for myself alone and not also for my colleagues you must al1ow me to take exception to the observations which I have taken the liberty to underline in the following passage extracted from it:- "the murder was evidently a cold blooded and deliberate one fully deserving the extreme penalty and the omission of the lower and appellate Courts to award it in such a case *clearly shows that*

they are influenced by personal predilections against the death sentence or in other words that they prefer their private opinions to the prescriptions of the legislature. Further comment is needless".

The portion of the High Court's judgement which has provoked these comments runs as follows:-

"The only point on which we have had some doubt was in respect of the sentence to be awarded to the accused. We have carefully per used the records and we are unable to say with certainty that the lower Court has, in sentencing the accused to undergo life imprisonment, instead of the extreme penalty of the law, erred in the circumstances of this case. The accused had been separate from his wife for about 9 months. His father-in-law (P.W.4-) had married a second time and Mariam (accused's wife) was at the date of the occurrence living not with her father but with her maternal grant-mother. P.W.4 was agreeable to send Mariam with the accused next morning. The deceased interfered and abused the accused using feul language and dissuaded his brother P. W.4 and beat the accused. The interference of the deceased was an officious one and the language used by him and his taunts in reference to the accused only aggravated the nature of his interference; Such conduct must have irritated any reasonable man P.W. 10 says that the accused came to his house about 6 or 7 naligas after dark on the night of the occurrence and told him that they (deceased and his brother) would not send his wife with him. His feelings must have been very sore indeed, whom he found that not only was he denied his right to take his wife with him, but that whom he requested to be allowed to take her he was insulted and beaten by on individual who had apparently nothing to do with the matter. No doubt there was a fairly long interval between the time of the occurrence and the time of the assault, but whether it was sufficient for men's anger to cool down would depend on the individual temperament and in great measure on the extent and nature of the insult and humiliation suffered. On the whole, the consider that we shall not be acting wrongly in leaving the sentence awarded by the lower Court undisturbed. We therefore confirm the conviction and the sentence passed on the accused. The reference and the appeal are disposed of as above".

You will gather from the above passage that the High Court has not failed to consider most anxiously the question of propriety of the sentence passed by the Sessions Judge, and it was only because, the learned Judges who composed the Bench were "unable to say with certainty that the lower Court had in sentencing the accused to undergo life imprisonment instead of the extreme penalty of the law, erred in the circumstances of this case, "that they felt bound to leave the punishment undisturbed. The Judges of this Court may have been wrong; I am not however, at present concerned in defending their judgment, as any discussion of its merits at this stage would, it seems to me, be purely academic in view of the law which makes it for all legal purposes absolutely final. But I must say that the reflections made against it by the British Resident in the passage above extracted are, in my opinion, not justified by anything that is said or suggested therein.

Notwith standing this conviction, I should have much preferred to return the British Resident's letter without any commend, had I not felt strongly that the imputation it conveys, viz. that the judges of the High Court prefer their private opinions to the prescriptions of the legislature, if so grave and prejudicial to the prestige of the Court, that silence in the face of it rght, at some future time, be taken as amounting virtually to a plea of guilty to the charge. As it is, you must allow me to say, with all respect that I consider the imputation in the present instance to be without foundation and altogether unmerited.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.)

K. RAMAN MENON.

87. THE MINUTES OF NOTES ON THE CONVERSATION THE EX-RAJA HAD WITH THE RESIDENT DURING AN INTERVIEW

After the Great revolt of 1857 and the adoption of the policy of Paramountcy the British policy towards princely States in India underwent important changes. They had a decisive role in the appointment of Diwans through whom and under the watchful supervision of Residents, the administration of the Princely States was indirectly controlled. This conversation between the ex-Raja of Cochin, a man of considerable sagacity and the British Resident throws light on the delicate relationship between the Raja, the Diwan and the Resident.

The Minutes of Notes on the conversation H.H. the Ex-Raja had with the Resident during his interview with him on the 22nd October 1918.

Mr. Braidwood called on me this afternoon at 4.30 and spent an hour with me. The purport of our conversation on the important points is given below.

I said that the Residents ought to spend a longer time in Cochin than they were doing in the past.

The R's question. Do you think that they do not spend sufficient time for her?

Answer. I think they ought to spend a longer time.

Messrs. Thomson and Nicholson were doing so.

Q. Do you think that I have not been here sufficiently long?

A. I have no idea what time you have spent in Cochin.

Rt. out of 18 months, 1 have spent 6 months in Cochin.

In reply I said that that was enough. The Rt. said that there was only one Residency in Cochin and if he wanted to spend some time in Trichur there was no suitable house. I told him that the D would find it very easy to arrange one. He repeated that want of a convenient house was the difficulty. I then asked his permission to talk to him about certain State matters. He allowed

and I asked what is proposed to do when Mr. Bhore completes his 5th, year in February' or March next. R's answer. "I think he will have to revert to' the British Service',"

Q. In the case will another man of equal status be taken from, B. Service. Or/a man from the state will be appointed?

A. I think another B. Office will be appointed.

Q. If it be so, want it be better to get an extension of Mr. Bhore's term considering his 5 years good work and the importance of the carrying out of the big schemes which were may be conceived, investigated and completed by him?

Q. Do you think Mr. Bhores work was satisfactory?

A. I think it is very satisfactory Rt. I too think so my.

Q. In that case why should a change of person be thought of?

A. The Raja wishes to have another man. This I tell you in strict confidence.

Q. What is the ground for the charge? A. He is not bound to give any.

Q. In Justice to himself and others, is it not fair on his part to let at least the Madras Gt. Know his grounds.

A. I do not think he is going to give any reason.

Q. Can you think of any substantial ground to Justify the desire to change the Dewan.

A. I can see none.

Q. How things are going on here is well known also out of Cochin. Is it in the circumstance likely that a man with any self honour would care to accept the Diwanship?

Rts. Q. What are the evils you refer to?

my a. The Raja is extremely well intentioned but weak, and his weakness is taken ill advantage of by irresponsible persons and they carryon intrigue chiefly against the D. apparently with the motive to send him away and get a man of the State appointed to the post so that they probably think that they might have their ways in all public matters. Some 3 years ago I observed a tendency like this and when I met the Raja last in cannoor nearly 2 and half

years ago, I had a free talk with him on the subject and advised him not to listen to the words of irresponsible persons but to consult the resident always, if he had any doubt with regard to the correctness of my proposals or recommendations made by the Diwan. I also told him that the best course will be to give the D. a free hand in all the details of the administration and but the whole responsibility of the same on him so that if anything went wrong he could always take him to talk. The Rt. interrupted and said "The 'Raja will not be able to seek, shelter under such a pretext." I continued. To the people and B. Gt. he will be solely responsible for all actions. I know that, but what meant was that he could take the D. to task for giving wrong advice. "That is so", the Rt. said I said that the Raj told me that he had been always doing so and never acted against the D's recommendations. I pointed out a few specific instances in which I know he did not accept the D's proposals. He said that even in those cases he acted according to the D's recommendations. Though I doubted the truth of the statement I did not wish to push the matter any further, as my object was only to warn him, against the repetition of the evil in future. I said that I feared that the evil had not only not decreased but that grown much worse. I told the Rt. that I also understood that the Raja was doing things in such a manner as to shake the discipline of the service very badly. Q. Was. not this very serious? I asked, Rt. a. Yes, but is it possible to expect all princes to be ideal rulers? are there not other native Courts where similar evils are present? my a. There may be other places where the evils might exist also on a greater degree. Perhaps it is odious to mention names and compare. Baroda is difficult man to manage. But our man I think can be easily brought round.

R t's. Q. How?

a. I am here Lord Pentland has publicly said that even after any retirement I should be closely watching the progress of the administration. If therefore things were to drift badly, I should not hesitate to take steps to prevent the spread of the evil. The Rt. might point out this aspect to the Raja and also advice him never to let intriguers approach him. He must strongly impress on the Raja that for advice he could always go to the D. and the Rt. who are his trusted and recognized advisers and to nobody else. Rt. the. present policy of the Government is not to interfere with the details of the administration. I said

that that was no doubt the correct policy and I shall be the last person to invite the intervention of the Rt. in small matters. But when the rulers do things by which the discipline of the administration is spoiled the D's authority is lowered in the eyes of his subordinates and of the people at large and tale bearing intrigue are encouraged or tolerated. Should there not be some remedy for it? What is must be?

Rt. a. I have often given the Raja advice.

Q. What is the idea of giving advice without enforcing its acceptance Rt. Q. Does not the Raja consult you about any matter, a. He has not done so yet. Once I suggested to him that we must be able to meet often so that we can exchange our views in several matters.

Any time, I said, will be convenient to me to meet him in my place and owing to any inconvenience he was not able to come to me, but at the same time wanted to know any opinion on any point, I had promised to go to him. But no occasion has till now arisen for either course. One great inconvenience to deal with the Raja is that he would some times deny things he has said or has been told. This is probably due to forgetfutness. I therefore always took care to record notes of the purport of the conversation with the Raja "I also do so", the Rt. said. He also said that the intrigue might go if a new D. is appointed. If a man is to be brought in from the British Service, I said that in my opinion all the attempts now made against Mr. Bhore would recure, the wish of the intriguers being to get one of them appointed to the D's post. "Where is a man here fit for the post? The Raja wants to get a man from the British service." the Rt. said. This news is a great relief to me, I said, I then told him that there was a rumour here that a Dty. Collector whose time in the B. S. is about to close war trying to get the Dewanship. If he comes probably the- intriguers might be satisfied.

Rt's Q. Is he a man of Malabar ? a. Yes. Q. Is he a native of the State? a. No but he has several times here. Rt. I do not think he will be appointed. Rt's Q. "What is his name?"

a. "P. Narayan Menon" my Q. Did you hear that there was an attempt by a vakil to get the sarvadhekaryakar's post? a. no. Who is he? my a. T. K. Krishna Menon a vakil. "You have chances of knowing things better than myself." the Rt. said. As for that I am better even than the D. -I said. Rt's Q.

Is he one of the intrigures? I do not know whether he has taken an active part in the present movement but, I know that he belongs to that clique. The Rt. again asked for his name, and I repeated it.

As the Rt. was not accustomed to my way of explaining things I was not sure whether he was following me; and I frequently asked him whether I made myself clear. He said that he understood me.

Before he left I proposed the return visit, and he fixed 4.30 p.m. on Thursday, Mr. Braidwood listened to me very patiently and spoke to me frankly, for which I felt very greatful to him.

RAMA VARMAH

Merry Lodge,
22nd October 1918.

88. UPGRADING OF THE ERNAKULAM COLLEGE

Reproduced below is an interesting document wherein the then Diwan Mr. J.W. Bhore, I.C.S.I., substantiates his contentions against the proposal to upgrade the college at Ernakulam.

MEMORANDUM DATED 22ND NOVEMBER 1918, FROM THE SARVADHIKARIAKAR

In view of the growing popularity of the institution and the large number of students from this State and other places in Malabar 'who yearly seek admission into the higher University Classes, His Highness thinks it is time to consider the desirability of raising the College at Ernakulam to a First Grade College. As the institution is an old one of about 50 years standing His Highness desires that the Diwan will consider the feasibility of such a course in all its aspects and inform His Highness about his views in the matter after making enquiries if necessary.

DIWAN'S NOTE DATED 3RD JANUARY 1919

1. The question of raising the Ernakulam Second Grade College into a first grade institution has been considered by me for some time. I have endeavoured to look at the question from all points of view. I have consulted educationists outside· and inside the State and after most anxious consideration. I have come to the conclusion that for what appear to me sound and valid reasons, the proposal is not one that should be persisted in. The objections that I can conceive to the proposal fall under two heads which I shall deal with separately.

2. The first is the financial question and has an intimate bearing on the educational policy of the State. The second is essentially connected with the merits PER SE of the proposal and its effect upon the student population of

the State.

3. The present Ernakulam College occupies and deservedly, a very high place among the educational institutions of South India. Its work has been consistently good and I believe that the general Calibre of students who have passed through its doors is of distinctly high order. I presume that any proposal that contemplates its elevation into a First Grade College should also look to the maintenance of those traditions which it has accumulated by good work and efficient management in the past. In other words the first Grade College would have to occupy as high a place in the educational institutions of this part of the country as the present Second Grade College, has done any proposal to have a make it a First Grade College, advanced with the mere idea of enabling a few impecunious students to save themselves the expenses of a sojourn in Madras would not be worthy of serious consideration. The first point therefore is what a First Grade College, if it is to be an institution in keeping with the traditions of the present College and of the State and if it is to maintain that pride of place which the present College has always occupied, would cost. I have gone into the matter with the Director of Education and we find that if efficiency is to be maintained a First Grade College would cost us in the first instance a capital expenditure of between two and three lakhs of rupees at least and an increased annual recurring expenditure of about half a lakh. My contention is that with the finances of the State in the condition as they are at present, this expenditure on what I may call educational luxuries as apart from necessities, would not be justified. I have elsewhere pointed out that unless education is broad based it will serve no really useful purpose and I consider that the claims of primary education must come before those of secondary and secondary must claim precedence over collegiate education. It is not sufficient or true to say that money can be found for both. My contention is that money cannot be found for both, as proposals are at present. All the money that can possibly be made available cannot meet the requirements of the education of the masses which is the most important demand at the present moment. If an additional recurring income of five lakhs were available it could easily be spent on educational necessities without touching the question of collegiate education. In my opinion 'primary education, technical education, the education of girls, the development of hostels and similar matters must claim priority of consideration. Already the expenditure has advanced from a

little over 3½ lakhs five years ago to 6½ lakhs in the present year and another 3½ lakhs could easily be spent with the utmost advantage on lower education and the objects which I have referred to above. That this will as far as can be seen under ordinary circumstance not be forthcoming without entirely dislocating the finances of State is certain. In other words even the demands of primary secondary and female education cannot be fully met immediately without converting our surplus into deficit budgets. My point therefore is that money that would be required both for capital and recurring charges in the case of a First Grade College can be spent with definitely greater advantage to the needs of the people on primary education and the connected educational objects to which I have referred above.

4.I turn to the second point which is in my opinion of even more importance. I would preface my remarks with the Statement that one of the greatest curse of the smaller States is the insularity of character and outlook which as a rule characterises their inhabitants. Their aims, aspirations and views are limited by a narrow horizon. It is bad enough as it is but it will be infinitely worse if a native of Cochin is given his whole education from the Primary standard to his degree in one place like Ernakulam. He will receive no wider ideas, he will come into contact with none of the larger liberalising influences to be obtained in a place like Madras, will remain narrow and restricted in his thoughts and in his education. This is a point of the greatest importance and eminent educationalists from outside whom I have consulted entirely agree with this. Anyone will bear out the fact that Trivandrum graduates, in nine cases out of 10 are inferior to Madras graduates even if mentally better gifted. It is the general education that contact with more liberalising influences gives which makes education in a place like Madras of infinitely greater educational value than instructions in a small provincial place. To my mind the greatest evil that can be done to the future youth of Cochin would be to enable them to receive their whole education in a cramped restricted atmosphere where they would have no opportunity of gaining a proper perspective of life and things. If, in time to come, a West Coast University materialises and collegiate institution a spring up in a University town it would, I think, be probably a progressive step, but an isolated First Grade College would I think be a distinct source of danger to the State. If the idea is, as I said before, to help poor students it would be more advisable for the State either to give very liberal scholarships

for students to go to Madras or even to the length of establishing a Cochin hostel in Madras where students from the State could pursue their further studies in the University town at a reasonable cost and under surroundings which would enable them to develop the best in them. I discussed this matter with Mr. Ganfield Williams, an eminent educationalists, from the North West Provinces and I am glad to say he fully endorsed this view as also did Prof: Ramunni Menon. The former also told me that Dr. Sadler, the President of the Calcutta University Commission recently appointed, was also strongly of the same view. It is however probable that this question of scattered First Grade Colleges may be dealt with in the report of that Commission and it would be perhaps a good thing to see what the commission has to say on this matter. For myself, I think that in the best interests of the student population, a First Grade College in Ernakulam would be a grevious mistake. Unless and until a West Coast University materialise, I would be inclined to favour the erection of a Cochin hostel in Madras properly equipped to give facilities to students from Cochin to study for the B.A. degrees in Madras and an opportunity of taking advantages of those great advantages which a University town holds forth at a reasonable cost. I am elsewhere taking steps to see that we keep the education of the masses and depressed classes in the fore front of our programme.

89. EDUCATION OF THE BACKWARD CLASSES

Amelioration of the condition of the socially backward classes was the concern of some of the progressive Indian States even before the dawn of Independence. Cochin was one of the enlightened princely States in India and it is no surprise that this State took very keen interest in the upliftment of the backward classes, through the promotion of education among them.

Reproduced below is a part of the administration report dealing with the education of the backward classes in the year, 1919-1920.

Encouragement in various ways was afforded during the year for the education of the backward classes. The honorary service of the Rev. Deacon Petres in visiting, along with the inspecting officers of the department, the backward localities and offering advice to the people was welcomed and, as a result, several new primary schools were started. The schools opened at Chakyamuri, Thekumbhagam, Ponnurunni, Alathur, Naradu, Chellanam (St. George's School), Alapad, Peringottukara, Methala, Puthuruty, Vannamadai and Meenakshipuram were specially intended for the backward classes, though no castes were excluded. All schools in the State have been declared open to all classes and Government have ordered that, if there are any in places not accessible to all the same should be removed as far as possible to places not objectionable and that no school buildings should hereafter be constructed out of public funds in a locality which is not accessible to all classes of people. Free and half free scholarships were granted to deserving poor pupils of the backward class and special scholarships are sanction to some for University courses Muhammadan boys enjoy the concession of half free scholarships. Koran teachers are appointed in schools situated in Muhammadan centres or in schools, having atleast twenty-five Muhammadan boys, to induce Muhammadan parents to sent their children to school and allow them to

continue there. As a further incentive, Arabic teachers are allowed to be entertained in such schools. One was appointed in 1095, at Azhikode and six more have been sanctioned this year for Government Schools. For the education of the Pulayas a special allotment of Rs. 13,000 was sanctioned by Government to be utilised in giving free meals, clothing, books, slates and stationery to the pupils of that class.

The number of pupils belonging to the backward classes in the different stages of instruction in all classes of institutions, Sirkar, as well as aided, rose from 9,416 in 1094 to 16,688 in 1095. Of the latter, 2,902 were Pulayas.

In carrying on the Government's liberal policy of an 'open (education) door' for all, the department was not left unmolested, but had to face opposition of a wholly unjustifiable character. For example, in Pongamuk a Pulaya boy when proceeding to school, was beaten by an Ezhava on the ground that he was polluted. But, taken all in all, the admission of the lowest castes into all the schools of the State is beginning to be accepted, even by the opposition, as a settled fact.

90. POLICE REPORT ON SAHODARA SANGHAM

Reproduced below is a police Report dated 16-5-1921 on a meeting held under the auspices of "Sahodara Sanghom" Palliport during the period of non-co-operation Movement. Sree Narayana Guru Swami presided over this meeting and Shri. C. V. Kunju Raman was one of the speakers. The meeting was organized by Sahodaran Ayyappan.

Police Inspector's office,
Alwaye, 3.10.95/16-5-1921.

To

The Commissioner of Police,
Travancore.

Sir,

I beg to report that under the auspices of the "Brother Sanghom" Palliport, the Kerala Brothers Conference was held on the afternoon of 2nd Idavom 1096/15th May 1921 in the premises of the Adwaithasramam Sanskrit School, Alwaye belonging to the Ezhava Community. It was a mass meeting which was presided over first by Sree Narayana Guru Swamy and subsequently by Mr. lyakutty, a Munsiff in Cochin. The gathering consisted mostly of Ezhavas who came from different parts of Travancore, Cochin and Malabar. There were Nair's, Mohamadans and Christians also. Ezhava females also attended the meeting. The speakers were lyappan Pillai of Thalavady, C.V. Kunjuraman of Quilon who is the Editor of 'Kerala Kaumuthi" newspaper, Natarajan son of Dr. Palpu of Mysore, K. Padmanabhan, Manager of 'Desabhimani paper, M. K. Raman who is a Vakil of Ernakulam and one woman named Vadakora Rugmani. They spoke on Hindu religion, uplift of the depressed classes, the

necessity of inter marriages and interdinings and emphasised on the non observance of castes. Mr. C. V. Kunjuraman in the course of his speach touched on the movement of Mr. Gandhi but he was warned immediately in private by Mr. K. Ayappan Secretary of "Brother Sanghom". He said that if Mr. Gandhi achieves its desired result that will be a blessing to all. He instantly turned the Subject. Nothing further of importance to be noted Submitted.

(Sd.)
3-10-96.
(Inspector of Police, Alwaye).

91. KHILAFAT MOVEMENT IN TRAVANCORE

Reproduced below is a report made by the District Superintendent of Police, Trivandrum in 1921 to W. H. Pitt, the then Commissioner of Police in Trivandrum. on the non-co-operation, Khilafat and Ezhava movement in Trivandrum.

Most of the persons mentioned are notables in the freedom movement in the State.

Trivandrum,
2nd April 1921.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your No.79/I.D. of 21 dated 25-2-1921, I beg to submit below the information collected about non-co-operation, Khilafat and Ezhava uplift movements in this District.

From the report of the S.ls it is understood that C. Kuttan Nair, student in the Senior B.A. Class. K. G. Sankara Pillai brother of Anchal Master Mr. Nanoo Pillai and also a student in the junior B.A., G. Parameswaran Nair of Kunnukuzhi. B. Narayana Pillai. President of the Students' Club and Padmanabha Pillai, nephew of Mr. Gopala Menon, Professor, are the Chief agitators with regard to the non-co-operation movement, and S. Adam Sait of Chalai, Pakir Sait. cloth merchant, Cantonment, Sayu Ummer Sait,. Proprietor of New Hall, Cantonment, and the Proprietor of Bombay Hall, Cantonment, are the prominent leaders of the Khilafat movement, in the town. The Non-co-operation also used to attend the Khilafat meetings held by them but nothing disloyal or agitative seems to have taken place in these meetings.

At Kazhakuttam and Chilakoor, meetings of the Ezhavas are used to be convened to discuss on "Temple Entrance" question. The chief leaders at Kazhakuttam are (1) Mr. Kochukrishnan B.A., who is undergoing training in

the D.T. Class and who is a brother-in-law of Munsiff Mr. Govindan and (2) Padmanabhan, Karuvanvilagam, Kazhakuttam. Of these Mr. Kochukrishnan is a man who is capable enough to influence and induce the illiterate Ezhavas of the locality to any deed. In a meeting held under his Presidentship, they discussed on their right to enter all the Hindu temples and the steps they should adopt in order to gain this end. Further they expressed that men should be selected from every spot for the central committee which is to be shortly formed in the Central Travancore and funds should be raised for the same.

The leading members at Warkalai for the "Temple Entrance" movement are the two brothers Mundayil Kunjukrishnan and Mundayil Raman. These two are somewhat influential in the locality and it is understood that these men call together a great number of the Ezhavas of the place to discuss on this question.

In a meeting held at Sivagiri, Varkalai, the temple entrance question was discussed by a great number of the leading Ezhavas of the locality and resolutions to the effect that they should stand against the action of the Government in this respect were passed.

The S.I, Attingal, reports that as regards non-co-operation and Khilafat movements there is no great agitation. But it seems that some of the students of the local school who were offered medals were induced by some others not to go and accept the same. Among these Kuttan Pillai of Kuttikattu Veedu, son of Kilimanoor Koil Thampuran, Sankara Pillai, brother of Taluk Aminadhar, Kesava Pillai brother of Sp. Surveyor and Kesava Pillai son of Dr. Mathavan Pillai stand foremost.

On temple entrance question, in a meeting held by the leaders viz. Kunchu Muthalali, merchant, Chirayinkeel, his brother-in-law Raman Muthalali, Paramu Vaidyan of Koonthalloor, Kochu Sankaran Jyothsian of Koonthalloor, Konnaravilakathu Govindan of Koonthalloor, Mummoo· layil Kunju, Punnakal Thopil Padmanabhan and Pooteha Panthyil Veloo of Chirayinkil, it was resolved that until Government readily and willingly grant that privilege, they are not to force their way into the temples and give offerings in such temples.

In other places of this District there is no noteworthy agitation or activity with regard to these movements.

As regards Kumaran Asan, it is reported that he is now residing in house at Pettah without taking any active part with the non-co-operations of this place who are mostly Nairs and Mohamadans. He is a leader of the Ezhavas and his activities are chiefly towards the temple entrance.

I remain,
Dear Sir,
Yours Sincerely,
(Sd.)
District Superintendent of Police.

To

W. H. Pitt Esquire,
Commissioner of Police, Travancore.

92. MESSAGE OF SREE NARAYANA GURU

In this report by the Superintendent of Police emphasise the message of Sri Narayana Guru on his pronouncement of all humanity form one caste. The meeting was organised by the Sahodhara Sanghom, Palliport.

To

The Commissioner,

I am forwarding herewith the account of a very significant meeting held at the Advaita Asram Ground, Alwaye the Headquarters of the Ezhava movement, on 15th May 1921. The meeting was presided by the Religious Heads of the Ezhavas, Sri Narayana Guru himself. He made a new pronounecement of great significance. He said as all Humanity form one caste there is no objection to interdining and intermarriage. A leaflet entitled "The Great Message" containing this pronouncement in the Guru's own faseimile was printed and distributed at the meeting. A pamphlet with a portrait of the Guru expounding the doctrine was also distributed at the meeting. This new doctrine is opposed to all fundamental principles of the Hindu Social System and the significance of the pronouncement lies in the fact that it shows the Ezhavas are going to have a big organised fight for the destruction of the Hindu Social System. The new doctrine will soon be expounded at all the Ezhava meetings big and small (and in Vaikom and Shertallai Taluks, the Ezhavas all over hold regular meetings every Sunday, besides the occasional muster meetings of which alone we get reports) and will spread among the ignorance Ezhavas. They will be taught to think they are as a matter of right entitled to marry the high caste women, but that the caste Hindus wrongly prevent them from doing so. This will be observed a great grievance just as non-admission to Hindu temples though dating from time immemorial has become a great grievance now. In fact the

real object of the agitation for temple admission is to become high caste and to get fusion with high caste people. This pronouncement of the Guru makes that very clear. You can easily conceive that effect the preaching of this doctrine will have on public peace especially in the Taluks of Shertallai and Vaikom where Ezhavas form a strong numerical majority. I do not expect many meetings will be held during the monsoon, but with the stopping of the rains in August the Ezhava agitation in this new dangerous form will spread fast in Shertallai and Vaikom and as caste people are few and not strong in these places, the Ezhava agitation result in very serious disturbance. If the agitation continues adequate steps will have to be taken; prohibition of meetings will be difficult in practice as it would not be easy to prevent the small weekly meetings held regularly all over both these Taluks. I believe if the agitation is being continued a strong preventive police will have to be posted in both these Taluks and the inhabitants of all castes and creeds will have to be charged with the cost. A copy of the leaflet and pamphlet is enclosed.

(Sd.)
District Superintendent of Police,
Kottayam, 24-5-1921.

93. RESIDENTS LETTERS REGARDING THE ALWAYE WATER DISPUTE

Kerala State emerged as a result of the amalgamation of erstwhile Travancore, Cochin and Malabar. Cochin and Travancore were Princely States whereas Malabar was part of the Madras Presidency.

Cochin and Travancore had enjoyed a unique position in administrative matters through the ages. During British rule also however they were able to keep that independent status in internal administration. The native rulers of these Principalities tried to maintain cordiality and consideration normally though there were occasions of stress and strain due to boundary disputes. The record reproduced here relates to the Alwaye water dispute that came there between the two States. The Periyar river which takes its source from the Western Ghats in Travancore territory flows through Alwaye and runs to the Arabian Sea touching Ernakulam, the then capital of Cochin.

This question has only historical interest at present when Travancore and Cochin are parts of the same State.

RESIDENT'S OFFICE,
TRIVANDRUM,
Dated, 28th December, 1922.

From

H. H. BARKITT ESQUIRE, 1. C. S.,
RESIDENT IN TRAVANCORE AND COCHIN

To

The Diwan of Travancore

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.A dated 16th December 1922, I have the

honour to enclose copy of this office letter R.O.C. No. 1162/16 dated 25th November 1916.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
(Sd.)
Resident

Letter from the Resident in Travancore and Cochin to the Diwan of Travancore

R.O.C. No. 462/66-Confidential dated 25th November 1916.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 6431 dated 2nd October 1916, I have the honour to inform you that my predecessor duly forwarded to my Government the Statements of the two Durbars in regard to the Alwaye Water Dispute and that my Government have now directed me to communicate to the Durbars their decision in the matter.

2. My Government observe that the matter has been under negotiation for a considerable time, and that they had entertained hopes that both the Durbars would deal with it as an administrative and not a mere legal matter and arrive at a satisfactory and amicable settlement. They note with regret that my predecessor's endeavours to secure this end have failed and that the Durbars have adopted an irreconcilable attitude.

3. In forwarding its statement the Travancore Durbar expressed the desire that a trained Lawyer well versed in the law of ripatritian rights should be appointed arbitrator to settle the dispute and that if his decision were against it a right of appeal to the Madras Government should be reserved, if however, my Government themselves proposed to decide the matter the Durbar wished to have a right of appeal to the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India, The Cochin Durbar, on the other hand was prepared to leave the matter to the decision of my Government.

4. My Government have decided to settle the matter themselves and after giving the subject their most careful consideration have come to the conclusion that the dispute should not be dealt with on the basis of the law as to the user of water by private persons, but should be viewed from the stand point of practical administration. They observe that while there is no question that the project can possibly affect the quantity of water in the river to the detriment of Travancore it will confer a great boon on the residents of Ernakulam. In the circumstances they have been pleased to decide as follows :-

(i) The Ernakulam Water Supply Scheme as at present formulated shall be accepted as a settled arrangement; and

(ii) that, if at any time hereafter the Cochin Durbar wishes to take off more than 9,00,000 gallons of water per diem from the Alwaye river in connection with the project, the Travancore Durbar shall be consulted before any steps in that direction are taken; and if the Travancore Durbar raises any objection, the matter shall be referred to the Govenment of Madras who will pass such orders as they think reasonable and just.

5. My Government hope that the Durbar will accept the above decision as finally settling the matter.

94. CONTRIBUTION TO THE JAPANESE RELIEF FUND

The correspondence below shows that a sum of Rs. 2,500 was contributed to the Japanese Relief Fund by the erstwhile Cochin State in the year 1923 A.D.

Dewans' Office,
Pudukkottai,
October 29, 1923.

Dear Sir,

I see from the papers that His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has subscri bed Rs. 2500 towards the Japanese Relief Fund started by His Excellency the Viceroy. I shall be greatful if you would kindly let me know whether the contribution was made from the State Funds or from the Privy Purse of His Highness. I want the information for the purposes of a similar contribution by the State to the same Relief Fund.

Yours Sincerely,
(Sd.)
Dewan.

M. R. Ry. P. Narayana Menon Avl., B.A., I. C. S.
Dewan of Cochin,
Ernakulam.

Ernakulam,
Dated, 3rd November, 1923.

Dear Kunhunni Menon,

Yours of the 29th October regarding the contribution made by His Highness the Maharaja to the Japanese Relief Fund.

The amount contributed was Rs. 2,000 and not Rs. 2,500. The monthly allowance paid to His Highness here is intended only to cover his ordinary expenses and private charities and payments made on account of public charities done for the honour of the State are debited to a separate head under "31-Miscellaneous 6-Subscriptions and Donations". The payment in the present case has accordingly been made from State Funds and not from the privy purse.

Yours Sincerely,
(Sd)
Dewan.

P.K. Kunhunni Menon Esquire, B. A.,
Diwan of Pudukkottai,
Pudukkottai.

95. THE BRAVE SON OF KERALA

The heroic activities of Dr. Chempakaraman Pillai, the famous Revolutionary and freedom-fighter of Kerala during the first quarter of this century for the liberation of his motherland are well-known. Reproduced below are two letters written by Dr. Pillai from Germany to the members of his family.

WE STAND FOR THE COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE OF INDIA

The Swaraj Office

Berlin-Charlottenburg,
Goethestrasse 16 A,
Telephone: Steinplate
13915
24-3-1926.

My dear brother,

Just a few lines to thank you for your registered post card and to express my full appreciation for all the troubles you are taking for my sake; but I beg you as I have done already several times before not to worry yourself if I do not write to you regularly. I am sure you would have read with interest the debates which took place in the Indian Council regarding the Indian exiles and the remarks which Mrs. Sarojini Naidu had made in her presidential address before the Congress delegates. You as well as my friends and colleagues are probably expecting my return to India in the near future, naturally in the belief that the British Indian Government would subordinate itself to the public opinion prevailing at present in India. I for my part, must tell you frankly that for the time being I am not at all inclined to take the risk of coming to India especially at a moment when the political events there are very unfavourable to persons of my turn of mind. You must however, understand

that I am not afraid of being tried before a British-Indian tribunal, but I am fully convinced that there will be neither justice in the land as long as the Britishers are there nor my trial and the eventual conviction would do any benefit to the cause I represent. Furthermore, I severely condemn the remarks which Mrs. Naidu had made in the Congress regarding us exiles. The Council debates on this question were also not conducted in a very honourable way- See for instance Mr. Jinnah's remarks. None of the Indians in Berlin had authorised him to speak in that way. My principle up till now has been to do my utmost to safeguard Indian interests in foreign lands and to promote thereby India's foreign politics. Now that the question of the Indian exiles has become the subject matter for discussion in India itself, I have decided to come out of my reserve and to take an active part in defending myself before the Indian public. I am advising in the same manner all my comrades who are living in foreign lands. More you will hear from me soon.

Very affly. yours, (Sd.)

Chempakaraman Pillai
TELEPHONE: STEINPLATZ-189 15

BERLIN-CHARLOOTT
GOETPESTRASSE-8
30th January, 1923.

My dearest father,

Hearty greetings to you!

Your kind and dear letter to me has given me pleasure beyond imagination. The parcel also arrived today, the contents of which I am tasting after nearly fifteen years. It is really sweet of you to have taken all the trouble of preparing and sending it to me which although I appreciate highly, must have put you into a good deal of expense.

I regret very much that I did not write to you for so many years and I am sure that you would understand my reasons knowing the nature of my activities for the sake of our enslaved motherland and the emancipation of her suffering millions. It is not possible for me to get to give you a description of my work and experience in the various countries I have travelled or of what I propose

to undertake in the near future. Certain it is that I must stay for some time yet to come in Berlin or somewhere else in Germany itself unless circumstances would compel me to take any residence elsewhere you can rest assured that I will not stay out of India a moment longer than it is absolutely necessary and it may be even probable that I may return to my dear ones sooner than we all may expect. In any case I beg you all, more particularly you my dear father, not to worry about me. I feel sure that before long I will be with you and try to make you all happy to the best of my ability.

I received several letters from brother. I am ready to help him in every way if he would let me know what he intends to do. It would be best & profitable for him to import German & other European goods (naturally, strictly abiding by the decisions of the Indian boycott-movement) into Travancore. For this purpose kindly ask him to send me without delay a list of things most needed there and the appropriate prices for which he could sell them. I am sending him by next mail some catelogues of various articles, such as stationery, culterly, aluminium and enamel wares & other latest novelties.

Please let me know whether you would like to have any thing from here.

I shall gladly send them to you. You must take good care of your health & try to keep up harmony amongst our family members.

Kindly give my greetings to all & write to me regularly. Tell brother not to write to others as he has been doing till now. The world is bad you know!

Yours ever affectionate,
(Sd.)
VENKITTAN.

96. A SCHEME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRIVANDRUM

The scheme submitted by Travancore Economic Development Board on 1924 includes a marine front, acquisition of land on the beach for Providing roads and other buildings.

Office of the Travancore,
Economic Development Board,
Quilon, 4th January, 1924.

From

The President,
Economic Development Board,
Quilon

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that Mr. S. K. Dharvadkar had submitted a scheme for the extention of the Trivandrum town on sanitary lines. This scheme was considered by the Board at its ninth meeting. His chief proposals are:-

1. With a view to develop healthy extension to the town of Trivandrum Government should take the initiative in forming a· Building Co-operative Society or an Improvement Trust, that Government should acquire the lands on the beach between the Railway line and the sea, and hand over the lands to the society or Trust which should, after laying out the necessary roads and reserving the lands required for market, School building,

hospital, recreation ground etc. parcel out the remaining area into half and one third acre blocks for house sites sell them to the public and pay the Government the cost of acquisition of the land/instalments.

2. To encourage the public to move out of these parts Government should remove the High Court building to the beach side.
3. Government should gradually stop the system of providing Government bungalows to their officers, sell away those that are not required for the location of Government offices and sell the lands after dividing them into half and one-third acre blocks.

The Board resolved that the scheme, copy of which is enclosed, be submitted to Government for consideration.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

S. K. DHARVADKAR,

President.

97. SCHEME FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE TRIVANDRUM TOWN ON SANITARY LINES

By S. K. Dharvadkar

Everyone knows the difficulty in finding suitable dwelling and business house accommodation in Trivandrum at present. It is a place of distances, comprising as it does of hills and valleys and the population of the town is growing rapidly. To add to this, the tendency of the people has been to come out of the congested parts, to the more open places, but find no scope until the Government step in to help them, in so doing, as almost all the hilly and more healthy places, are occupied by the Government; most of these sites having bungalows reserved for European officers. Here it is to be noted that the Government have occupied many a private building for locating some of their offices paying a heavy rent, whereas these reserved bungalows, with extensive compounds, comprising in the aggregate about one-fourth of the town, often remain un-occupied for years for want of European officers to occupy the same. The maintenance charges of these bungalows being from Rs. 700 to Rs. 800 per annum and the rent realized Rs. 600 during the same period of occupation. Some of these compounds are so big that the officers occupying the bungalow may not find it convenient to inspect the whole compound even once in six months.

It might have been necessary for the Government to provide bungalows to European officers, when the town was not so extensive and afforded no facilities to the Europeans, who were in large numbers then, in the State service. Now, times are charged, and the people are to be encouraged to invest in building enterprised by creating a demand for decent dwelling and business house accommodation.

"The Board recommends the Government to gradually stop the system of providing Government bungalows to their officers, either European or Indian, and sell away the bungalows, after reserving for themselves some of those absolutely necessary for the location of Government offices. The Compound

should be divided into blocks of one-third and one-half acre with reads laid between them before they are auctioned".

Further, a decent mofussil on sanitary lines should be created on the beach side. But as long as there is no town planning scheme with approach roads and the whole area being registered by a few it is not possible to bring out a systematic town extension without Government interference.

"With a view to develop healthy extensions to the capital town or Trivandrum, the Board recommends the Government to take the initiative in forming a building Co-operative Society or an Improvement Trust (like the Improvement Trust of Bombay) on the following lines:-

"The Government to acquire the whole area on the beach between the Railway lines and the sea and hand over the same to the Society or the Trust on the following conditions:

"The Society or the Trust to layout suitable main roads, cross roads, cavenging roads, in the area with blocks or house building sites one-third and one-half acre and sell the same to the public by auction. The Trust or Society should reserve the necessary market places, school build sites, hospital building sites, play grounds recretation part sites, and building model houses for hire or for sale, on hire-purchase system (vide table at the end) and pay the Government the cost of acquisition of the lands in easy instalments".

"To encourage the public to move out of these parts Government to have the high Court buildings on the beach side".

Further details could be discussed when the Trust or Society is formed for the purpose. The Board recommends that a small committee consisting of three Board members including the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, the Sanitary Commissioner, and also the Engineer in charge of the Trivandrum Division be formed for the purpose of Co-operating with the Government in forming a Co-operative Society or the Trust.

It is also important that the congestion in the Fort and specially round the palace of the Highness the Maha Raja should be removed. The low lying places and the paddy fields opposite to the Eastern gate of the Fort should be filled in, and the level raised. The Congestion of the Chalai road should be removed by widening the main road up to the Karamanai river and a good system of drainage should be constructed. Naturally decent short buildings will come up on both the sides of the road and enhance the beauty of the capital town. *A table* showing roughly a house can be secured by anyone on

the hire-purchase system and how a building Co-operative Society can be made a paying proposition as well. A house worth Rs. 4,000 at a monthly payment of Rs. 50 towards rent, cost of maintenance.

(N. B. Here provision is made for *maintenance charges of Rs.100 per annum* and 6% interest on the capital debt).

Payment for the 1st Year	Interest at 6%			*Paid in Principal*			Amortisation Capital debt		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
1st year	240	0	0	260	0	0	3740	0	0
2nd year	225	0	0	275	0	0	3465	0	0
3rd year	208	0	0	292	0	0	3173	0	0
4th year	190	0	0	310	0	0	2863	0	0
5th year	171	0	0	329	0	0	2534	0	0
6th year	152	0	0	348	0	0	2186	0	0
7th year	131	0	0	369	0	0	1817	0	0
8th year	109	0	0	391	0	0	1426	0	0
9th year	81	0	0	418	0	0	1008	0	0
10th year	61	0	0	439	0	0	609	0	0
11th year	40	0	0	460	0	0	209	0	0
12th year	12	0	0	488	0	0	279	0	0

N.B.-Fractions of a rupee are omitted in the calculations of the above table.

(Sd.)

S. K. DHARVADKAR

(Sd.)

President

98. BOAT ACCIDENT AT PALLANA

The life of Kumaran Asan, the illustrious Malayalam Poet, was prematurely cut short in a boat accident at Pallana Canal about 15 miles south of Alleppey. In order to investigate the circumstances which led to the disaster of that boat, named Redeemer, a Committee was appointed by the Government of Travancore and given below are extracts from the report of that Committee.

(Ref. No. 21035/ER6/79/GAD)

PRELIMINARY

The "Redeemer" a motor boat belonging to the Travancore and Cochin Motor Service and licenced to carry ninety-five passengers left Quilon for Alleppey at 10.30 p. m. on the 3rd Makaram 1099/16th January 1924 with a large number of passengers and considerable luggage on board. At about 5. a. m., she reached Pallana which is thirty-three miles from Quilon in the south and fifteen miles from Alleppey in the north. It is on the canal leading from the Kayamkulam lake to Alleppey and is a mile and a half to the south of Thottappally where there is a look across the canal, and three mile to the north at Thrikkunnapuzha which is itself a mile and a half to the north of the place where the canal to Alleppey branches off from the Kayamkulam lake. At Pallana, the canal has a sharp bend towards the left. In turning the bend, the boat heeled to the right and capsized almost right over, so that the propeller and a portion of the keel could be seen above the water. Twenty three passengers and the oiler of the vessel lost their lives as a result of this accident. The known survivors including seven members of the crew number about one hundred and twelve. A portion of the luggage belonging to the passengers was either lost or damaged. Near the scene of the accident, the canal is between eight and ten feet deep and about ninety-five feet in width

2. In all, twenty-four dead bodies were recovered, viz.
   Nine on the 4th Makaram
   Eight on the 5th Makaram
   Two on the 6th Makaram
   and Five on the 7th Makaram.

Of these, nineteen bodies were identified by the relatives or acquaintances of the deceased persons. Three were not identified because no one acquainted with the persons concerned was present at the time. These were, however, photographed before being buried. The remaining two corpses were too far advanced in de-composition to be identified, and were, consequently, not photographed. They were bodies of adult males. Among the nineteen who were identified were a Nadar, an Elayathu, a Christian boy (the oiler of the vessel), an Ezhava, an Asari, two Nairs, three Tamil Brahmin ladies, four Tamil Brahmin children (one boy and three girls) and five Nambudiries. One of the persons who were drowned was Mr. Kumaran Asan, a well-known Malayalam scholar and poet and a respected leader of the Ezhava community. One Arumukam Pillai, the master of the vessel who is generally spoken of as the manager, absconded immediately after the occurrence. He was, however, recently arrested and we were able to examine him at a late stage of the investigation. He says that he went away from Pallana rather abruptly because some of the passengers threatened to kill him. The Nambudiries who lost their lives appear to be persons who had been to Trivandrum in connection with the Murajapam.

3. In spite of repeated efforts made under the direction of the Assistant Engineer of Quilon, the vessel could be refloated only on the evening of the 7th Makaram. It was on the following day handed over by the Division First Class Magistrate of Alleppey to a third party for safe custody. It was subsequently toured to Sherthallai. The Police Inspector of Karthigappally within whose jurisdiction the disaster occurred, held inquests on all the dead bodies. The bodies which were claimed by the relatives or friends the persons concerned, were handed over to them for cremation or burial while the unclaimed bodies were buried by the Police. The Inspector of Police, has further, taken a case on his file against the surviving members of the crew

under section 304, 336, 278, 280 and 104 of he Travancore Penal Code. The charge does not seem to have been laid before the Magistrate as yet, since the Police are waiting for the conclusion of the enquiry by this committee.

4. The news of the disaster soon spread throughout the country and caused widespread grief and horror. Recognising the seriousness of he tragedy, His Highness's Government appointed, by their order No. R. O. C. 161 of 1924/ Judicial, dated Trivandrum 31st January 1924, a Committee consisting of the following gentlemen to enquire into the circumstances connected with the disaster and to suggest measures, if any, for the avoidance of similar occurrences.

1. Mr. P. Cheriyan (Retired Puisne Judge, High Court) President
2 Mr. W. H. Pitt (Commissioner of Police)
3 Mr. K. V. Natesa lyer (Chief Engineer)
4 Mr. N. Kumaran (Vakil and Member, Legislative Council)
5 Mr. M. R. Madhava Warriar (Vakil and Member, Legislative Council)

The Committee was asked to submit a full report within two months.

5.The Committee held a preliminary meeting at Quilon on the 27th Makaram 1099 to settle their programme of work, visited the scene of the disaster and afterwards proceeded to Alleppey to inspect the boat which had to be owed thither from Shertallai. The regular enquiry began on the 6th Kumbhom 1099 and was concluded on the 13th of the following month. Fourteen sittings were held at Quilon, one at Karumadi and six at Alleppey. Eightythree witnesses were examined in all. Of these, no less than forty-seven persons including five members of the crew were in the "Redeemer" at the time of the disaster. Another was a person who had travelled in the boat on the night in question as far as Thrikunnapuzha and subsequently I gone over to the scene of the occurrence on hearing of the disaster. Among the witnesses examined there were persons from all parts of Travancore in addition to a few from Tinnevely, Madura, Malabar and South Canara.

6. It is very fortunate that such a large number of passengers turned up to give evidence. This was due largely to the public spirit of the passengers themselves and also to the particular care taken by the Police in delivering the

requisitions which the committee has issued to every one of the passengers (Other than women and children), who were known to have travelled in the "Redeemer" on the night in question. With a view to obtain the evidence of persons other than those whose names were known to the committee, a notification was published in the Travancore and Cochin Government Gazettes, the Tinnevelly District Gazette, the Swadesamitram (A Tamil News-paper which is said to have considerable circulation in the Tamil Districts of the Madras Presidency), and in the following Malayalam Newspapers giving intimation to the general public about the date and place of the Committee's sittings and of their willingness to hear the evidence of persons who were in possession of relevant information helpful for the enquiry.

The Malayalai

The Swarat

The Deshabhimani

The Samadarsi

The Keralabhimani

The Malayala Manorama

The Nazrani Deepika

The Nava Bharathi

The Mitha Vadi

The Gajakesari

The Kerala Kaumudi

The thanks of the Committee are due to the Cochin Durbar and to the managers of the Malayalam Newspapers mentioned above for having generously published their notification free of charge.

7. There is ample evidence to show that long before the "Redeemer" left the Quilon Jetty, it began to be inconveniently crowded. All the passengers felt very great discomfort. Most of them could not sleep at all till very late in the night, though some were lucky enough to get their usual sleep soon after the boat started on her voyage. Many complained and protested to the boat-master. He, however, seems to have paid any attention whatever to the

complaints, and, what is worse, he was behaving in an exceedingly rude and insolent manner towards the passengers. Some had doubts whether the boat was not overloaded beyond the limit of safety. Probably, the fears of these passengers were dispelled are long when they found that the boat was able to cross the Ashtamudi lake without any incident. Partly on account of this and partly on account of the discomfort experienced in the earlier part of the night, most of the passengers were sleep at 5. a. m. when the boat capsized all of a sudden in turning round the bend at Pallana. Though there seems to have been no panic in the sense that the behavior of any of the passengers unconsciously stood in the way of their own escape or that of their fellow passengers, there is no doubt that when suddenly and without any warning whatever, such a large number of persons were plunged in water at that untimely hour, there was considerable confusion and bewilderment among them. Many of the passengers seem to have raised a cry. Probably on account of all this confusion, very few of the passengers who appeared before the Committee were able to give a clear and consistent account as to how the accident happened or as to what took place immediately afterwards. Even as to the incidents that took place earlier on the voyage, a lot of contradictory evidence has been given. Nevertheless, the evidence taken as a whole gives a fairly clear conception of what took place.

SECTION II

Details of occurrence-Rescue work-Recovery of dead bodies and articles of luggage-Attempts made to refloat the boat-Conduct of Public servants and others subsequent to the disaster.

8. In order to obtain a clear grasp of the happenings at Pallana on the 4th Makaram 1099 and the following days, it will be useful to bear in mind the sequence or events given below. The evidence given by the passengers and by those who took part in the rescue and salvage operations, leaves hardly any room to doubt that the chronological order given below is fairly correct.

4th Makaram 1099

1. Capsizing of the Motor Boat "Redeemer" at 5 a.m.
2. Arrival of two big vallams.
3. Passing of the Motor boat "Mahamedia" from Quilon to Alleppey.
4. Do. of the "Morning Star".
5. Do. of the "Nooral Rahiman".
6. Attempts made to turn the capsized boat so as to make it rest on its keel which resulted in the boat being tilted slightly to the left side .
7. Arrival of P.I. Koshy, the Lock Superintendent, Thottappally.
8. Arrival of Policemen from Thottappally and Thrikunnapuzha out-posts.
9. Rescue and salvage operations concluded for the day 8 a.m.
10. Koshy's return to Thottappally and arranging for the despatch of a message to the Assistant Engineer, Quilon, the message being handed in at the Alleppey Telegraph Office at 11.30 a.m.
11. Koshy's return to Pallana and taking down the names of the survivors.

12. Passing of the motor boat "Queen Madonna" from Alleppey to Quilon with Mr. Varkey Mathew, the owner of the "Redeemer", Maistry Govinda Menon of Karumadi and P.W.D. Contractor between 10 and II a.m.

13. Arrival of Mr. Kumara Pillai, Tahsildar-Magistrate of Karthigapally, about 3 p.m.

14. Arrival of Mr. Veloo Pillai, Inspector of Police, Karthigapally about 3.30 p.m.

15. Arrival of the Division First Class Magistrate of Alleppey, 5 p.m.

16. Arrival of the Medical Officer, Haripad, 7 p.m.

17. Arrival of Mr. Kuppuswamy Iyer, Section Officer, from Kayamkulam, 10 p.m.

Note

Nine dead bodies were taken out from the boat and one hundred and twelve persons including seven members of the crew are known to have landed safely on the 4th Makaram.

<u>5th Makaram 1099</u>

18. Arrival of Mr. K. Narayana Pandalai (District Magistrate), Mr.K.Narayana Pillai (Assistant Engineer), and Mr. R. K. Krishna Pillai (District Superintendent of Police), from Quilon, 7 a.m.

19. Arrival of thonies or large vallams with men and tackle despatch from the Owner's Alleppey Office, 9 a.m.

20. Renewed efforts to raise the boat which were only partially successful.

21. Arrival of a Photographer from Haripad 11 a.m.

22. Removal of the awning of the upper deck, 6 p. m.

23. Return of the Medical Officer, 6.30 p.m.

24. Departure of the District Magistrate at Mid-night.

Note:

Two bodies including that of Mr. Kumaran Asan, were recovered from the canal while six others were taken out of the boat on the 5th Makaram.

6th Makaram 1099

25. Arrival of Mr. L. H. Jacob, Executive Engineer, Quilon 7 a.m.

26. Arrival of the Assistant Superintendent of Police, from Chengannoor to relieve the District Superintendent of Police whose presence was required at Chengannoor for the Arat.

27. Renewed efforts to raise the boat which were again partially successful.

28. Departure of the Tahsildar-Magistrate, Karthigapally about 10 a.m.

29. Dragging of the boat to a somewhat shallower part of the canal to the south of the scene of the disaster, 4 p. m.

30. Departure of the Executive Engineer and the District Superintendent of Police from Pallana in the night.

Note:

Two dead bodies were recovered from the boat on the 6th Makaram.

7th Makaram 1099

31 . Renewed efforts to raise the boat, again only partially successful.

32. Owner's men and boat left for Alleppey to bring more men, pulleys, tackles etc., between 2 and 3 p.m.

33. Boat re-floated, 3 p. m.

34. Assistant Engineer left Pallana afterwards.

Note:

Five corpses were removed from the boat on the 7th Makaram.

8th Makaram 1099

35. Boat handed over to a third party for safe custody pending final orders.

36. Departure of the Division First Class Magistrate, Alleppey, 4.30 a.m.

37. Departure of the Police Inspector of Karthigappally, 8 p. m.

9. There is no doubt that the vessel which was heavily over-loaded and very top-heavy heeled to the right or starboard side just as it was turning round the bend and sank in the canal instantaneously. The shutters of all the windows of the cabin for females had been pulled up while most of the windows of the other cabin had been left open. Most of the curtains on the sides of the upper deck had been fastened with buttons. Frantic efforts were made by those who were awake and by those who awoke by reason of the sudden plunge into the water to effect their escape. The raised shutters, the fastened curtains and the floating cushions seriously handicapped the passengers who were imprisoned within the cabins and the upper deck. Somehow or other a large number of passengers who were on the upper and lower decks, were, inspite of the fastened curtains of the upper deck and the iron bars around both the decks, thrown into the water or managed to slip out of the vessel. A few swam to the eastern bank of the canal. Many of those who did not know to swim sank in the water, but nearly all of them were lucky enough when shot up to the surface to get hold of the railings or iron rods or some other parts of the vessel and managed to keep themselves above water for a short space of time;

10. *** ***

11. *** ***

12. Before leaving this part of the narrative, it may be pointed out that according to such of the crew of the "Redeemer" as have given their evidence, the loan of a rope was refused only by the "Morning Star" which belongs to their own service. This statement which is quite unnatural has to be ascribed probably to the bitterness which these people entertain towards their late employer who, it may be observed, has been suggesting from the very beginning that the disaster was due to foul play, the suggestion being that perhaps, his own servants were implicated in the affair.

13. Among the passengers in the cabin intended for females were one Mr. C. S. Swaminatha Iyer, the Manager of the English Club at Kodaicanal and his wife and two of his children. His mother and two other children were in that portion of the lower deck which was intended for third class female passengers. He was asleep at the particular moment when the accident took place. Though he was a stranger to this part of the country and was having his

very first trip in the Travancore backwaters, he had the pluck and presence of mind to feel for the shutters of his cabin and to force open with his head one of the shutters on the left side of the cabin which in the boat's then position would seem to be on its top. Though, in doing this, he sustained some injury in his head, he managed with a supreme effort to lift himself out through the apertune of the cabin. Having got himself out of the cabin, he made repeated efforts to save these who were shut up in it and in the third class deck in the rear. He says that he rescued a few and dragged out a number of dead bodies including those of his mother and one of his children. By this time it was day-break.

14. With the help of the "Redeemer's" own ropes and the rope lent by the "Morning Star" an effort was made to raise the boat to its normal position. This had the effect of turning the boat slightly towards the left side. Just at this time, Mr. Swaminatha Iyer heard his wife cry from inside the cabin, that she was being left to die. He then made another attempt to rescue her. This time he succeeded, but unfortunately his infant children was tightly held in the mother's arm was dead. It was now past 7 a. m. Even after this, there were in the boat several others including two of the children of Mr. Swaminatha Iyer, but as it was certain that everyone of them was drowned, no further rescue work was attempted. By this time more than a hundred passengers, including those who had at the very outset swam to the eastern bank, were carried in the vallams and landed on the western bank. Nine dead bodies besides considerable luggage were recovered on the first day. These corpses were all taken out of the boat and not picked up from the canal. Altogether only two dead bodies were picked up from the canal. Even with regard to these two, it is not impossible that the death took place while those passengers were in the boat itself and their bodies subsequently washed into the canal. The mortality seems to have been almost entirely among those who were caught within the boat itself.

15. While on the subject of rescue work, it has to be observed that, on this point also, the witnesses give very conflicting accounts. Nearly all the witnesses agree in a saying that Mr. Swaminatha Iyer did much in the direction of saving the passengers caught within the cabins. Mr. Swaminatha Iyer himself says,

that he alone and not a single other soul did any rescue work. Seeing that his wife and children and his mother were in the boat, it is quite certain that he must have shown far more concern and exerted himself much more than any of the other passengers. There is no doubt that Mr. Swaminatha Iyer's conduct deserves every praise. It is very unfortunate that though he was able to rescue several of his fellow-passengers, he could have only one out of the six members of his own family who were travelling with him. His Statement that not a single other individual, whether among the passengers or the crew, or among those who arrived from the neighbourhood did anything in the direction of rescue work is, however, not quite accurate. In fact, while most of the passengers who appeared before the Committee did not claim to have done any rescue work, a fairly large-number, including some of the members of the crew and also the Lock Superintendent at Thottappally put forward such a claim. At the same time, though so many as forty four passengers were examined by the Committee, only two or three of them say that they were rescued by anyone else. None of the passengers rescued by Mr. Swaminatha Iyer has appeared before us. Most of the witnesses attribute their rescue to their luck in getting hold of some iron bar or some portion of the frame work of the boat. The truth seems to be that many of the passengers were rendering to their fellow-passengers such help as they could think of in their bewildered state of mind. Regarding the crew also, it is not correct to say that they were all quite indifferent and did nothing to save the unfortunate passengers. There is very reliable evidence to show that three at least of these worked very hard in rescuing the passengers and in searching for the people caught within the cabins; the others, excepting the manager who seems to have been anxious to run away from the scene as early as possible, might also have helped in the rescue work. The Lock Superintendent Koshy, too does not seem to be making an altogether empty boast. There is reliable evidence to show that though he arrived on the spot only just as the rescue operations were about to close for the day, he also was rendering such assistance as was possible at that late stage in dragging people out of the cabins. There were five policemen on board the "Redeemer" including four who were returning from Murajapam duty. Three of the later, viz. P. C. No. 1251. KunchuPillai, P.C. No.85,

Narayana Iyer, and P.C. No.564 Rama Krishna Iyer seem to have done good rescue work. The first two of these, viz. Kuchu Pillai and Narayana Iyer, deserve special praise.

16. Pallana is a lonely place. On either side of the Canal there is a vast stretch of low lying lands planted with coconut trees. On the eastern side, there is hardly any human habitation except a hut or two within a radius of about a furlong from the scene of the accident. On the western side however there are a few huts scattered here and there. Some of the people living in these huts went over to the scene of the occurrence, but do not seem to have rendered any help in rescuing any of the passengers. Very probably they reached the place rather late. There is very reliable evidence, however. to show that most of the people who collected there from the neighbourhood heartily co-operated even in the earliest attempts to shift the position of the boat. The only well-to-do people in the locality are the members of a Nair Tharawad known as Kalavara Veedu, and a Malayala Brahmin Illom whose members are generally spoken of as Pallana Potties. Both these houses are half a mile away from the scene of the accident. They do not seem to have obtained timely information of the Occurrence. Nevertheless Mr. Kesava Pillai of Kalavara Veedu, succeeded in reaching the place within two hours of the capsizing of the boat. There is ample evidence to show that after the survivors were rescued Mr. Kesava Pillai and Pallana Potty were most generous in attending to the needs of these stranded passengers. It appears that all the Brahmins and a few others were fed at the Illom, while the majority of the non-Brahmins were fed at the Kalavara Veedu, Mr. Kesava Pillai seems to have supplied cloth and oil to some and helped a few with money to enable them to go to their homes. He rendered assistance to Mr. Swaminatha Iyer for cremating the bodies of the latters mother and children. The generosity shown by these people deserve special mention.

17. Seeing that a large number of people were travelling in the "Redeemer" on the night of the accident, there was probably a firly large quantity of luggage also on board. It is true that ordinarily most of the third class passengers do not carry much luggage with them. There were, however, one or two peculiar

circumstances on this occasion. About thirty of the passengers were Nambudiries, Embrandiries or Potties who were returning from Trivandrum after the Murajapam. They were able to save some money during their stay there. From the evidence given by some of the survivors it may be safely concluded that their savings would amount to something between forty and fifty rupees each. A considerable portion of the savings was invested in the purchase of cloth and other articles while the balance was carried in cash. There was a party of eleven Nair's from Attingal and the surrounding places who were proceeding to Kottayam in connection with a marriage in a respectable Nair Tharawad. The members of the party say that they had with them a steel trunk containing valuable cloths. Thirdly it appears that there was among the passengers a rich Nair Landlord, Narayanan Nair by name, a native of Cochin State, who is said to have carried with him a leather bag containing money besides a steel trunk, in which also there were many valuable articles. Besides, these, there were steel trunks, wrist watches, gold chains, loose cash money bundles of purses, cloth, umbrellas & Col, belonging to various other passengers .

18. Every endeavour seems to have been made to recover the lost articles. Even at the very outset, some articles were found floating in the canal. These were all promptly picked up. Various other articles were got hold of and recovered in the course of the attempt made to remove dead bodies from the cabins and the upper deck. The canal was carefully searched for a considerable distance in either direction of the scene of the disaster. The canal being not very deep, it was not necessary to go in search of skilled drivers. The services of a number of persons accumstomed to drive in canals like this were promptly procured. The canal was repeatedly draged with nets by fishermen and others who were accustomed to use them. An idea of the thoroughness of these operations can be had when it is remembered that even small articles like wrist watches, watch chains, silver rupee pieces, small money purses & etc., have been recovered. When any of the recovered articles were claimed by any of the passengers, they were promptly handed over to the claimant under the orders of the First Class Magistrate as soon as he was satisfied as to the validity of their claim.

19. The Police Inspector and the Division First Class Magistrate were present on the spot from the afternoon of the 4th till the night of the 8th. The District Magistrate, the Executive Engineer, the Assistant Engineer, and the District Superintendent of Police were also present for portions of the time. There were a few policemen on the spot from the moment of the disaster. In these circumstances, it is not probable that any of the articles were clandestinely made way with by anyone. Many of the passenger witnesses were questioned whether there was any complaint of theft of luggage. Not one has given an affirmative answer. Almost all the higher officials were also questioned. No such report reached any of them. There is no current in the canal except what is due to tidal ebb and flow, which is not very strong in this part of the water-way. Of course, there is the fact that there is clay in the bed of the canal, but in view of the fact that so many small articles were recovered from the bed of the canal, it is easy to see that the clay is not of any great depth. From the fact that the recovered articles were delivered to the claimants only after the latter had satisfied the First Class Magistrate as to the truth of their claim and in view of the circumstance that most of the passengers who lost their luggage remained on the spot for a day or two in the hope of getting back the same, it is unlikely that any luggage, especially articles like big bags and steel trunks were given away to wrong persons.

20. The trunk belonging to the marriage party from Chirayinkil was recovered and handed over to them. The leather bag belonging to Mr. Narayanan Nair was also recovered and handed over to him. It is, however, said that his steel trunk is missing. Mr. Narayanan Nair left the place soon after his bag was recovered, but before leaving the place, he left with the Police Inspector a statement to the effect that a trunk belonging to him and containing the following articles had still to be recovered.

1. Five currency notes of the value of Rs. 100 (One hundred rupee) each.
2 One string of 108 gold beads.
3 A few pieces of silk.
4 Promissory notes executed by private individuals to the value of Rs.5,500.

This trunk has not been recovered. At first, sight, it is not quite clear why this gentleman who belongs to the Cochin State should carry with him promissory notes of the value of Rs. 5,500 when he went to Trivandrum. Perhaps some more light could have been obtained if Mr. Narayanan Nair had appeared before the Committee and given evidence. But Mr. Narayanan Nair has written to say in answer to the requisition issued by the Committee that he is undergoing medical treatment which prevents him from undertaking any journey till after the middle of April. It was not therefore possible for the Committee to test the accuracy of the representation made by Mr. Narayanan Nair of the alleged loss of his trunk. In the light of the facts already mentioned, it is not possible for us to say definitely whether or not there was such a trunk in the vessel at the time of the accident.

21. Under the direction of the First Class Magistrate, list of the unclaimed articles were prepared and the articles taken charge of by the Police Inspector of Karthigapally pending investigation of claims that may be preferred with respect to them. Since there is no accurate information about the articles that were lost, it is not possible to estimate their value. None of the witnesses that appeared before the Committee seems to have lost anything very valuable. The Officials who were present at the time of the salvage operations say that no such complaint was made to them by anyone except Mr. Narayanan Nair.

22. Pallana is pointed out above, is only a mile and a half from Thottappally. By day-break, the news of the occurrence reached P.I. Koshy, the Lock Superintendent at Thottappally. Immediately he went to the spot in an Odivallam (a fast going small canoe) and was able to reach it by 6.30 a.m. He appears to have been the first Government servant to arrive on the scene after the accident. On his way, he sent a letter to the Canal Officer at Kayamkulam, which is about fifteen miles from Pallana and also sent word to the Police Officers at the Thottappally out-post. He says that he spent some little time at Pallana in assisting in rescue work and in rendering first aid to some of the rescued persons. Then he sent back to the Lock to make arrangements for to the despatch of a telegram to the Assistant Engineer, Ouilon. He then returned to Pallana and remained there till 8 p.m. that night. The first thing he did on his

return was, to prepare a list of the survivors of whom a large majority was still on the spot. If he had not had the good sense to prepare such a list so promptly, it would not have been possible to form even an approximately correct estimate of the number of passengers that were on board the "Redeemer" at the time of the accident. It is true that the disaster was very serious; but were it not for this list, it would have been difficult to dispel the notion that it was much more serious than what it actually was. On the whole, the Lock Superintendent's conduct on the occasion is commendable.

23. Soon after the Lock Superintendent's arrival, a few constables from the Thottappally and Thrikunnapuzha out-posts arrived. Though they were only a few and though they did not reach the place early enough to take part in the rescue of passengers, they seem to have been usefully occupied in maintaining watch over the numerous items of luggage that were being recovered from the canal and the boat

24. Between 10 A.M. & 11 A.M. Mr. Varkey Mathew, the proprietor of the boats belonging to the Travancore and Cochin Motor Service arrived at Pallana in the "Queen Medonna". About an hour or two after he left Alleppey, he happened to meet the "Morning Star", which was going to Alleppey. The crew of that boat gave him intimation about the disaster. Mr. Varkey Mathew says that he sent word through the crew of the "Morning Star" to his Alleppey Office, directing his men there to send big thonies, tackle & C.; to assist in refloating the "Redeemer". On his way he took Maistry Govinda Menon from Karumady and Mr. K. G. S. Nair, a P.W.D. Contractor from Thottappally. These men were dropped at Pallana and after the stay of a few minutes, Mr. Varkey Mathew proceeded to Quilon without making any arrangements locally for raising the boat. No boubt, he arrived too late to be of any service in saving the life of any passenger. He says that under an agreement already entered into by him with the Sirkar, the boat in which he was travelling at that time was due at Quilon at 4 P.M. at that very evening to convey to his Illam in North Travancore after the Nambudiri gentleman who was returning from Trivandrum after the Murajapam. Maistry Govinda Menon and Contractor K.G.S. Nair say that he looked very much dejected at that time. According to

the Contractor, the man was shedding tears and expressing the fear that in the event of his identity being known, the passengers would in their then frame-of-mind seriously assault him. Whatever criticism may be levelled against Mr. Varkey Mathew with regard to his conduct on this occasion, it cannot he said that if he had broken the journey, any more lives could have been saved. The maistry took advantage of Mr. Mathew's departure to send by him a report to the Assistant Engineer, Quilon.

25. Mr. Kumara Pillai, the Tahsildar, Magistrate of Karthigappally who heard about the occurrence at 10 A.M. while on his way to Thrikunnapuzha arrived at Pallana at about 3 P.M. Several hours before he reached the place, the rescue work had come to a close. He made enquiries about the needs of the stranded passengers and assisted in sending a Brahmin girl and her infant brother, to a relative of theirs in Cochin by a Motor Boat going from Quilon to Alleppey that afternoon. Similarly, he arranged with another motor boat to convey to Alleppey two or three persons who wanted to be there very urgently. He sent for the medical officer at Haripad who arrived there that evening with some disinfectants. Mr. Kumara Pillai spent another day at Pallana, which he left on the morning of the 6th Makararn. The medical officer did not remain at Pallana very long, because none of the passengers who where there on his arrival stood in need of his professional services.

26. Mr. N. Veloo Pillai, the Police Inspector of Karthikapally received intimation of the accident at I P.M. when he was at Muthukulam where he had gone in connection with the investigation of a murder case. Muthukulam being only about half a dozen miles away from Pallana, he arrived at Pallana shortly after 3.30 P.M. He remained there for the next four days and held inquests on all the dead bodies recovered, and with the help of a photographer sent for by him, had three of the unidentified bodies photographed. The other unidentified bodies were too far advanced in decomposition to be photographed. He has taken a case against the boat's crew, arrested them and released them on bail. He remained at Pallana till 8 P.M. on the 8th Makaram. He seems to have done a good deal of useful work during the time he stayed there.

27. Mr. G Subramonia Iyer, the Division first Class Magistrate of Alleppey says that between I and 2 P.M. on the 4th Makaram, while holding court at his head-quarters, he casually heared from a vakil about the disaster. Being unable to obtain a motor boat to take him to Pallana, he went by motor car as far as Ambalapuzha and from there took a Canoe to Pallana. While on his way he met a special motor boat and travelled in it for the rest of the journey. He reached Pallana at about 5 p.m. He says that some of the articles of luggage recovered were under his orders returned to their rightful claimants. Similarly, when the inquests were over, such dead bodies as were claimed by friends and relatives were handed over to them under his orders for disposal. He remained at Pallana for four days. Under his orders the boat which was lifted at 3 p.m. on the 7th Makaram was handed over to Mr. Mathew Panjikaran who gave a bond undertaking to produce it when called upon to do so. He returned to his headquarters only on the evening of the 8th Makaram. Seeing that Alleppey where he received intimation of the disaster is fifteen miles from Pallana and that information itself only between 1 and 2 P.M. it cannot be said that he was unduly late in reaching Pallana.

28. Mr. Kuppuswami Iyer, the Canal Officer at Kayamkulam, received the Lock Superintendent's letter at I p.m. He says that he at once proceeded to Airamthengu where he had to waste a few hours in the vain hope of being able to get a seat in one of the line boats, but as these boats were all quite crowded, he had at last to go to Pallana in his own canoe. He reached Pallana at 10 p.m. Even if he had started from Kayamkulam as soon as he received intimation, it would not have been possible for him to reach Pallana before night-fall.

29. Mr. Narayanan Pandalai, the District Magistrate, Mr. Narayana Pillai, the Assistant Engineer and Mr. R. K. Krishna Pillai, the District Superintendent of Police arrived at Pallana on the morning of the 5th Makaram They were all at Quilon. One and all of them received information of the disaster only after I p.m. on that 4th Makaram. No motor boat could be had at that time because all the spare boats had left Quilon the previous night. The result we that they could leave for Pallana only by the boats which left Quilon on the night of the

4th. The efforts made since their arrival for the raising of the boat, for the recovery of the dead bodies and article of luggage were all made under their supervision. The District Magistrate left Pallana on the night of the 5th and the District Superintendent on the 6th. The Assistant Engineer, however, remained on the spot personally, supervising the attempts made to raise the boat. During his stay at Pallana he took down statements from some of the passengers and the crew. He left the place only after the boat was raised on the night of the 7th. Mr. L.H. Jacob, the Executive Engineer at Quilon went over to Pallana only on the 6th Makaram, but seeing that the Assistant Engineer had gone there the previous day, there was no useful purpose to be served by Mr. Jacob's accompanying his assistant on that occasion. No doubt, the motor boat which sank in the canal at 5 A.M. on the 4th Makaram was fully raised only at 8 P.M. on the 7th. But seeing that no mechanical appliances such as cranes, pulleys an even big thonies could be had at Pallana and that no skilled workmen could be obtained anywhere near the locality, it cannot be said that there was any unnecessary delay in raising the boat. Here it may be said that the statement that appeared in some of the newspapers to the effect that the offer made by a member of the Kalavara house to raise the boat was rejected by the officials is quite unfounded. Mr. Kesava Pillai who was the first member of that house to reach the scene of occurrence and seems to have spent sometime there, does not speak of any such offer made by any member of his house. The District Magistrate, the District Superintendent of Police and others say that no such offer was made to them by any onc.

30. On account of certain vague unfavourable comments which had appeared in public print concerning the conduct of the Sirkar servants on this occasion, be questioned several of the witnesses on the point. Not one of them has made any statement that would lend the slightest support to the allegation that any of the Government servants-whether higher or low who appeared on the scene after the occurrence, was remiss in doing his duty or gave cause for any just complaint. On the contrary, most of them say that the Sirkar servants did everything that was possible for the recovery of the dead bodies and the same the raising of the boat. All the higher officers who were at Pallana on the 4th Makaram and subsequent days say that no representation

whatever was made to them about any misconduct on the part of the subordinate officers. In short, upon the evidence before the committee there is nothing whatever to be said against the various grades of the public servants relating to their conduct subsequent to the occurrence.

31. Before concluding this part of our report, we wish to observe that we have carefully read the many leading articles and news letters that have appeared in the newspapers regarding this unfortunate tragedy. Many of them contained useful information and helpful suggestions. At the same time, seeing that the disaster that overtook the "Redeemer" at Pallana is of such unprecedented magnitude, there is nothing strange, if exaggerated and misleading accounts of the disaster and the rescue and the salvage operations also happened to be published. For fear of making this report, unduly long, we refrain from discussing at length all the evidence bearing on the various points raised in the newspaper, articles and correspondence. Suffice it to say that both in examining the witnesses and is arriving at our conclusions, we had kept prominently in our minds the allegations contained in the newspapers.

99. SATROMS THROWN OPEN TO ALL CLASSES

Untouchability and other perversions of the caste system were widely practiced in Travancore. But in the Twentieth Century, especially during the period of the Maharani Regent, a number of social reforms were introduced. Satroms or travellers rest houses were restricted to certain classes of people. These letters show how steady progress was made in removing these irksome and reactionary practices due to the enlightened measures adopted by the Regent.

No. 7265 Maramat Engineer's Office

Trivandrum, 21st July 1924.

From

The Maramat Engineer,

Trivandrum.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,

Trivandrnm.

Sir,

Subject :- Satroms in the State.

Reference:- Government letter No.R.O.C. 1097 of 24/P.W. dated 12th July 1924.

I have the honour to enclose a list of the satroms to the State maintained by this department. I have no information regarding the other satroms. The list is made up of (A) satroms 18 in number mentioned in G.O.No. P.W. 1790 A dated 19-3-1913 and (b) Another 21 satroms not included therein.

2. Of the satroms in list A, Aranmula Satrom and Thiruvattar Satrom are not to be thrown open to all classes vide G.O. Nos. 1131 A853-12 dated 19-2-1914 and 3085 A.P.W. 853-12 dated 31-5-1914, Kozhai satrom is in

close proximity to a temple and the Dewan Peishkar, Kottayam has for this reason reported in his No. 1119/Mis. dated 6/7-6-1916 to Government that this satrom need not be thrown open to all classes. As regards Thannirmukkam Satrom, Government have in their No. R.O.C. 630/P.W. of 21 dated 31-1-1923 ordered that there is no need to provide separate Kitchens for the reasons presumably that the ordinary travelling public do not generally halt at Thannirmukkam. All the other Satroms ill the list A, excepting only those at Madathurai and Erumakuzny have already been thrown open for all classes. As the separate kitchens for these two satroms have been recently put up a draft notification that these two satroms also are thrown open to all classes of His Highness' subjects has been sent up to Government for publication in the Gazette.

3. Out of the 21 satroms in list B, those at Cape Comorin, Maruthukulangarai, Thiruvallah and Vaikom are said to be within Sanketham limits. Those at Thirupathisaram and Bhoothapandy are in car streets to which it is said non-caste Hindus have no access during Utsavams. Quilon, Railway satrom is already thrown open to all classes. In the case of all the other satroms in list B, there appears 10 be no objection to throw them open to others than caste Hindus after providing a separate Kitchen for their use. But the matter has to be settled after referring to the Land Revenue Commissioner. This department attends only to the repairs to the satroms. But the control of the satrom and of the establishment in these now rests with the Revenue Department and it is only that department that is in a position to know what classes of persons actually use them now and what demands have been made by other classes for their being accommodated in them.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

Maramat Engineer.

LIST OF SATROMS IN THE STATE MAINTAINED BY THE MARAMATH DEPARTMENT

A. *Satroms included in G.O.No. 1790 A dated 19-3-1923*

1. Thannirmukkam Satrom
2. Kozha satrom
3. Kottayam satrom
4. Pampady satrom
5. Muvattupuzha satrom
6. Kuthattukulam satrom
7. Thodupuzha satrom
8. Madathura satrom
9. Ayoor satrom
10. Erumakuzhi satrom
11. Aranmula satrom
12. Neyyattinkara satrom
13. Nedumangad satrom
14. Vamanapuram satrom
15. Palode satrom
16. Kallar satrom
17. Ozhuginacherry satrom
18. Thiruvattar satrom

B. *Satroms not included in the above G.O.*

1. Thovala satrom
2. Thirupathisaram satrom
3. Bhoothapandy satrom
4. Cape Comorin satrom
5. Suchindrom satrom
6. Padmanabhapuram satrom

7. Eraniel satrom
8. Wurkkalay rest house
9. Quilon Railway satrom
10. Quilon Olai satrom
11. Vellikavu satrom
12. Maruthukulangara satrom
13. Kulathupuzha satrom
14. Thiruvellah satrom
15. Pallathuruthi satrom
16. Changanacherry satrom
17. Vaikom satrom
18. Kaladi satrom
19. Ettumanoor satrom
20. Lalam satrom
21. Kudayathur Thavalam.

(Sd.)

20-7-1924 *Maramat Engineer.*

R.O.C.No. 951/25.

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum, 11-8-1924.

The L. R. &. I. T. Commissioner,
Travancore.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the subject of throwing open the satroms in the State to all Indians has been engaging the attention of Government and that all the satroms enumerated in G.O.No. 1790/A/P.W. dated 19-3-1913; have since been either thrown open or since excluded. The Government would wish to have a completed list of all satroms in the State with information on the following points in respect of those which have not been mentioned in the G.O.

1. Whether they could be thrown open to all Indians and if so,

(a) Whether they could be thrown open at once without providing separate kitchens, or

(b) Whether separate kitchen should be provided before throwing them open.

2. If they could not be so thrown open at all grounds for excluding them.

I request that you will be so good as to treat the reference as urgent and let me have such a list with your remarks as regards each of the satroms. In this connection, I send herewith for your information copy of M.E.'s letter No. 7265 dated 21-7-1924 on the subject.

I have etc.

(Sd.)

NOTE

A copy is put up of G.O.No. P.W. 1790 A dated 19-3-1913, ordering 28 satroms mentioned in the G.O. being thrown open to Christians and other non-caste Indians, after providing separate kitchens for their use. Of these 28, the following were ordered to be excluded for various reasons:-

1. *Devicolam Satrom*

In letter No. 459, dated 29-1-1918 the Devicolam Commissioner was granted permission to convert it into a camp shed vide me 782/17/P.W.

3. *Mundakayam Satrom*

4. *Ponkunnam Satrom*

These are used for holding public offices. Devicolam Commissioner's No. 95269/20 in file 853/12/P.W.

5. *Thannermukkom Satrom*

The letter R.O.C.880/21 dated 31-1-1923 addressed to the Land Revenue Commissioner, Government accepted his opinion that there is no necessity to throw then (sic) the satrom as it is not required in the interest of the travelling public and as it is required as waiting rooms during Royal tours and for

Nambudiris during Murajapom times. vide file 893/24 P.W.

7. *Kozha Satrom*

The opening of this was ordered to be dropped as it was reported to be within objectionable distance of a neigbhouring temple (vide Dewan Krishnan Nair's order dated 4-7-1916 in file 853/12).

13. *Chathanur satrom*

This was sanctioned to be converted into the Meenad Proverthi Cutcherry (vide letter dated 10-9-1921) to the Dewan Peishkar, Quilon in file Dis.122/ 23 P.W.

14. *Kottarakara Satrom*

This is being used as the local girls' school (vide Peishkar's letter dated 17-6-1921 in file Dis. 122/23).

18. *Aranmula Satrom*

Excluded on account of its proximity to the temple (vide G.O.1131 A, dated 19-2-1914 in file 853/12).

19. *Killipalam satrom*

The Revenue Commissioner in his report dated 24-10-1922 stated that the building had been sold in auction and the site handed over to the Education Department (vide file Dis. 893/24).

26. *Colachal Satrom*

Ordered to the left as it is owing to its Proximity to a temple (vide Dewan Krishnan Nair's order dated 183-1918 in file 676/16 P.W.).

27. *Thiruvattar Satrom*

Excluded from it proximity to the Palace and the temple (vide G.O.No. 3085 A, dated 31-5-1914 in file 853/12).

The *Railway Satrom* at Chackey was intended to be reserved few caste Hindus from the very first. The Satrom was built with palace funds (vide, Palace D.O. No. 692 dated 23-2-1919 in Po 1. file 51/19). It was subsequently declared to be His Highness' special desire that "the satrom should not be open to any except Brahmins and other high caste Hindus and should be styled the Caste Hindu Satrom" (vide Dewan Raghaviah's order

dated 1-6-1921 in Dis. File 1254/21/PW.) This restriction was communicated to the Chief Engineer and the Peishkar in letter R.O.C. 820 dated 1-6-21 in Dis. file 1254/1921/P.W.

II. *Satroms thrown open*

2.Devicolam Cutcherry Satrom

This is reported to have been thrown open by Gazette Notification of 3-5-1921 (vide Revenue Commissioner's letter 2039 dated 22-9-1922 in file Dis.893/24/P.W.

6.Ariyad Satrom

One of the 3 blocks of this Satrom was thrown open by the original G.O. itself.

8. *Kottayam Satrom*
9. *Pambady Satrorn*
10. *Muvattupuzkha' Satrom*
11. *Koothattukulam Satrom*
12. *Thodupuzha Satrum*
15. *Madathura Satrom*

} Declared to be thrown open by Notification dated 21-7-1922 in file Dis. 893/24/P.W.

Thrown open by Notification dated 21-7-1924 in file Dis. 893/24.

16. *Ayoor Satrom*

Thrown open by Notification dated 26-1-1223 in file Dis. 893/24.

17. *Erumakuzhi Satrom*

Thrown open by Notification dated 21-7-1924 in file Dis. 893/24.

20. *Neyyattinkara Satrom*
21. *Nedumangad Satrom*
22. *Vamanapuram Satrom*
23. *Pallode (Sic) Satrom*
24. *Kallar Satrom*
25. *Oluganasseri Satrom*

} All these 6 satroms are referred to in file Dis. 893/24 as having been thrown open.

But no separate Notification are found to have been received in this office. It appears from letter No. 6975 dated 4-10-1920 in file 853/12 addressed

to the Devicolam Commissioner that the peishkars had authority to publish the Notifications themselves.

From the list accompanying the Land Revenue Commissioner's report No.2863 dated 11-11-24 in C.I097/1924, it is seen that the following satroms not included in the above 28 are also open to all classes at present.

1. *Quilon Railway Satrom* (No. 23)
2. *Quilon Cali Satrom* (No. 24)
3. *Ponkunllam Satrom* (This is however No.4 in the list of 28)
4. *Kudyathur Thavalam Satrom* (No. 41)

Submitted

In re: satroms in the State the following general facts may be stated:-

All the Satroms in the State (excepting those in the Devicolam Division) arc maintained by the Maramat Department, the establishment and contingencies of these being left under the control of the Revenue Department. As regards the Satroms in the Devicolam Division, both the maintenance and establishment attached there to, are under the P.W.D.

The Maramat Department attends to the maintenance of all Satroms in the State except the fol1owing:

I. Satroms in the Devicolam Division which are under the control of the P.W.D.

2. Satroms in which Government offices are held, as their maintenance will be attended to by the Heads of Departments whose offices are held.

The Maramat Engineer has forwarded a list of Satroms in the State maintained by his Department. He has classified that list into two parts.

1. Satroms enumerated in the G.O. of 1913 for being thrown open to all classes.
2. Satroms not included in the G.O.

As regards (1) he has stated that there are 18 Satroms and that excepting the Satroms since excluded by Government all have been thrown open. It may be submitted that action has been taken in regard to the Satroms enumerated in the G.O. of 1913 (vide separate note on the subject).

As regards the Satroms not included in the G.O. it will be seen that there are 21 Satroms in all the Divisions (excepting Devicolam), that the Maramat Engineer says that 6 of them from their very position, could not be so thrown open, that one satrom (Quilon Railway Satrom) has been thrown open, and that the remaining 14 may be thrown open after providing separate kitchen. Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar says that as the Revenue Department has the control of the satrom and of the establishment, it will be in a position to knew what classes of persons actually use them and what demands have been made by other classes for their being accommodated and that the question has to be settled after referring the matter to the Land Revenue Commissioner.

The Dewan has observed that necessary and possible action should be taken at once in regard to resolutions like throwing open Satroms without waiting for further discussion at future meetings and that all such matters should be picked up and sent up for order promptly.

It may be submitted that the Satroms at Madathurai and Erumakuzhi have since been ordered to be thrown open to all Indians. With these two Satroms, all the Satroms enumerated in the G.O. of 1913, have either been thrown open or excluded. Any further action to be taken in this direction has to be with reference to the Satroms not included in the G.O. 21, such Satroms are reported to be maintained by the Maramat Department of which one has already been thrown open and as regards the others, a rent has to be called for from the Revenue Commissioner asking for the following particulars.

I. Those which should not be thrown open, giving reasons.

2. Those which may be thrown open.

As regards (2) he may be asked which of them may be thrown open at once without providing separate kitchens and which of them should be so provided.

Beg Orders.

Yes.

(Sd.)

25-7-24.

100. COLONISATION SCHEME FOR PRISONERS OF MAPPILA REBELLION

Now a developing, centrally-administered territory of strategic importance, the Andaman Islands were once the country's convict settlement. The present enterprising people there, are mostly descendants of early settlers, among them were the Mappilas of Malabar also.

The grim story of how an early batch of Mappila families was taken to Andamans is clear in the following bunch of toll-tale letters.

I. D.O dated 15th June from Mr. J. A Thorne, I.C.S., Collector of Malabar to Mr. M. Kunhiraman Nayar, Zamorin's Estate Collector, Chalapuram.

Malabar Dt. Mgte's office,
Calicut,15th June-I925.

My dear Mr. Kunihiraman Nayar,

Mappilla Rebellion-Prisoners-Andamans-Colonisation Scheme.

I have this morning discussed the scheme with Mr. Muhammed Schammad, M.L.A., and Mr. Mottal Uppi, M.L.C. I promised to obtain certain information with a view to removing their suspicions of the scheme.

2. In the first place they quote the remarks in the Jail Committee's report about the Moral character of the women now on the Islands. On account of the women being so few in number compared with the men they were described as being almost all of loose morals if not prostitutes. It is naturally considered that if Mappilla women are to associate with people of this sort the scheme is open to objection. I said that my impression is that the Mappilla do not mix and will not need to mix with these old settlers and that therefore there will be no danger of contamination. Please let me have information on this point.

3. Another point is that the Mappilla women who go over will be liable to the ame temptations to loose living and prostitution since even if the scheme is successful, their number will be much less than that of the men who might have access to them I said my impression was that hereby all of the Mappilla self-supporters wanted their families and if we succeeded in getting them the number of women in the Islands would not be greatly less than the number of men who might have access to them. I said that I did not believe that the other class of convict, i.e. those who are not self-supporters but are still jail prisoners could have access to the women. Please let me have full information on this point also.

4. Another objection was that it is curious that the scheme should be confined to Mappilas. That is to say, if it is desirable for self-supporters to have their women on the Islands why are Government not attempting to get the women belonging to the non-Mappilla self-supporter? I said that according to the Jail Committee's report the Government are attempting to do this even in 1920 though without much success and I believed that they are still trying to get all self-supporters to import their families. Please let me know whether this is correct. Also please inform me whether there are many non-Mappila self-supporters from families are not with them on the Islands.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.)

M.R.Ry., Rao Sahib

M. Kunhiraman Nayar, Avl., B.A.

Zamerin's Estate Collector, Chalapuram.

2. D.O. dated 18-6-1925 from Mr. M. Kunhiraman Nayar Zamerin's Estate Collector to Mr. J.A. Thorne I.C.S., Collector of Malabar.

Camp Perinthalmanna,
18-6-1925.

My dear Sir,

Mappila Rebellion-Prisoners-Andamans-Colonisation Scheme

Your D.O. of 15th instant.

It is true that the standard of morality among the women of the "Local-Born" community of Port Blair is not very high I would not advise the association of Mappila women with them. It was with this idea that care was taken to exclude non-Mappilas from Mappila villages. I think I have succeeded in impressing upon the Chief Commissioner of Port Blair, the necessity of isolating Mappila settlers from the other settlers so that they may carry on their customs and manners, and their religious and social functions just as in Malabar. Your impression that the Mappilas do not mix, and will not need to mix with the old settlers and that there would be no danger of contamination is quite correct.

It is only those Mappila convicts who want to import their families to Port Blair that apply for S.S. tickets. If for any reason the family of a convict do not join him in the Andamans, he asks his friends and relatives in Malabar to send him a suitable girl to be taken as wife and he marries her. Several unmarried girls who have gone to the Andamans have been married by Mappila bachelors there. If he fails to secure a wife to leave with him, his S.S. ticket is liable to be cancelled and the convict will be remanded to labour; because according to the policy recently laid down by the Port Blair settlement, only family men, and men who are likely to import their families will be granted agricultural tickets. Thus if the scheme is to be a success, every self-supporter will have his family with him in course of time. The labouring convicts cannot ordinarily have access to the women living in villages. If they are found to be loitering in villages without a pass, they will be published under the regulation for convict offences.

It is a mistake to suppose that the scheme is confined to Mappilas. The Mappila Colonisation is only a part of the big scheme of the Andamans

Colonisation. Government of India have been giving all facilities for the emigration of the families of S.S. Convicts; but the response was not very encouraging. The Mappila is the only community which has a large, number of members in Port Blair. The name Andaman's is a 'red rag' to the people of India owing to its association with criminals and women, naturally are unwilling to go to the place. The Mappila women know that as there are a large number of Mappilas in Port Blair they have no reason to fear of molestation from the other class of prisoners. So they decided to emigrate. When Government found that the scheme of Andamans colonisation is likely to prove successful if encouragement is given to the emigration of Mappila families, they made special arrangements for propaganda, and for their escort etc. After the Mappila families began to emigrate to Port Blair, families from among other classes of convicts from other provinces have begun to go to Andamans.

There are non-Mappila self- supporters in Port Blair whose families arc not with them; but as stated above they will be compelled to import their families.

It may perhaps be interesting to you to hear that among the last batch of the families who went to Port Blair was the family of an old Nair convict.

(Sd.)

To

J.A. Thorne, Esq., I.C.S.

Collector of Malabar.

Endorsement No. 2999, C-l dated 16th May 1925 from Mr.K.Ramunni, Menon, Under Secretary, Government of Madras, Law (General) Department to the I.G. of Prisons and Dt. Magistrate, Malabar.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Law (General) Department

Letter from the Chief Comissioner, Andamans and Nicobar Island No.275 dated the 4th May, 1925, to the Chief Secretary to Government.

I have the honour to say that with sanction of Government of India and approval of your Government 25 Mappila convicts are being despatched to Calcutta en route to Madras for the purpose of persuading their own families and those of their friends in the Andaman, to return with them to this settlement.

The party will reach Calcutta on the 11th May and I have wired to the Inspector General of Prisons and asked him to arrange for the usual escort to conduct them onwards.

The party is accompanied by Mr. P.P. Govindan, Tahsildar, who has been instructed to make every effort to ensure the success of the experiment and to co-operate with the local authorities in carrying out any measure which they may consider advisable to that end.

A ship will leave Madras on the 7th July to bring back the party and Mr. Govindan will be responsible for conducting the women and children. Funds are available in my budget to meet all expenses and I shall be ready to remit to Mr. Govindan any money that he may require.

I should be most grateful if you would kindly assist by encouraging local authorities to use their influence to further the success of the experiment and in particular by expediting the arrival of the party in Malabar.

The object of the party I would repeat is to make the wives and families acquainted with the amenities of life in the Andamans and to persuade as many as possible to return with them in July.

Mr. Govindan has been ordered to report himself to the collector of Malabar, and I am sending that officer a copy of this letter and asking him to

help in every way he can.

Endorsement No. 2999-C-l dated the 16th May 1925.

Communicated to the Inspector General of Prisons and the District Magistrate, Malabar for information in continuation of Endorsement No. 2819 C-l dated the 6th May 1925.

By order

(Sd.)

Under Secretary.

To

The Inspector General of Prisons,
The District Magistrate, Malabar.

Copy to: The Inspector General of Police

Letter dated 16 June 1925 from the Dt. Magistrate, Malabar to the Secretary to Government, Law (General), Government of Madras

To

Secretary to Government,
Law (General).

Sir,

Mappila Rebellion-Prisoners-Andamans Colonisation Scheme-Opposition-Your telegram of 15-6-1925.

The Government are aware that 25 Mappilas have been sent here from the Andamans to induce their families, and the families of their friends, to accompany them to the Andamans; and that Mr. Govindan, the Andamans Tahsildar also came to Malabar in order to interview a number of relations of Mappila convicts who wish to import their families. The "Maharaja" is due to sail from Madras at the beginning of July. Messrs. Schamnad and Uppi wish the migration to be postponed in order that the Leg. Council may "discuss"

the scheme.

2. This wire is the sequal to an interview with me. On the 14th evening I was rung up on the telephone by Mr. Muhammad Schamnad who asked me if I could see him about the Andamans Scheme. I invited him to see me in office yesterday morning at 10.15. He came accordingly, accompanied by Mr. Uppi. They mentioned a number of objections to the scheme-practically all based on the report of the Jail Committee of 1920. I pointed out that it was quite possible to accept the views expressed by the Committee as correct and yet adhere to the opinion that the present scheme was an advantageous one. For instance, the Committee found that the lack of women in the islands led to the practice of unnatural vice and the prostitution of the few women who were there. If as I anticipate, a number of families are sent over to the self supporting Mappila convicts, these defects will thereby be renoved, at any rate in part. There were one or two points on which I promised to get further information- e.g. on the extent to which the Mappila immigrants will be free from the danger of contamination by the old vicious community; the extent to which the self-supporting families will be cut off from association with convicts (not self-supporters), the extent to which the colonisation scheme has been applied to convicts who are not Mappilas. On these points I wrote immediately to Rao Sahib Kunhi Raman Nayar for information. Then it turned out that whatever the result of that attempt to get further details, these two gentlemen would not withdraw their objection to the scheme. Mr. Muhammad Schamnad told me that Sir Alexander Muddiman had offered him that he should go to the Andamans at Government expense and see for himself what the conditions were; and that he had declined the offer, where upon Mr. Uppi said that even if Mr. Muhammad Schamnad went and reported favourably of the scheme he (Mr. Uppi) would not be converted. From this it appeared that these gentlemen were not susceptible to argument and demonstration. I pointed out to them that no Mappila of the rebellion area had expressed the opinion to me, or-so far as I know-to anyone else, that the scheme was a bad one; that opposition came entirely from foreigners, gentlemen from S. Kanara, Cochin State, Madras and N. Malabar; that my opinion of the benefits of the scheme were based on the first-hand experience of Messrs. Kunhi Raman Nayar, Abraham and Govindan and on the testimony of the Mappila convicts themselves, whereas the opposition relied unintelligently on the opinion of the

Jail Committee which were not as a matter of fact inconsistant 'with the present scheme. Messrs. Muhammad Schamnad and Uppi then revealed the true nature of their objections. This was expressed by the formed in the following terms: It is well-known to Muhammadans that Hindus are alarmed by the predominance of Muhammadans in certain parts of India. The Hindus realize that apart from the physical power of the Muhammadans they have an advantage in those areas from their voting strength under the reforms. For some time those Hindus, had by the Arya Samaj, have been devising means to frustrate the dominance of Muhammadans. In Malabar it was well known that Hindus, since the rebellion, desired-if not the extermination-at any rate this weakening of the Mappilas. It was not suggested that the Government were consciously abetting this design; but the effect of this deportation of large numbers of Mappilas to the Andamans would be to play into the hands of Hindus and deprive the Muhammadans of the power to which they were entitled under the Reforms. Thus, whatever the arguments in favour of the colonisation scheme, they would oppose it because it involved the decline of Muhammadan influence in Malabar. To that argument I could only reply that Arya Samaj influence in Malabar was negligible; that I did not believe that there was any conspiracy to deport Mappilas wholesale; that the numbers likely to be sent to the Andamans could not appreciably affect the population of Malabar. I expressed the opinion that any Muhmmadans who worked to frustrate the genuine desires of Mappila convicts to import their families into the Andamans were taking a gave responsibility, in that they would perpetuate the defects mentioned by the Jail Committee and thwart the well-being of Mappilas both in the islands and Malabar itself. They withdrew, and presumably at once despatched this telegram to Government.

3. In my fortinghtly letter dated 12-6-1925 I have mentioned that the Muslim Aikya Sangham (a reforming Muhammadan body of Cochin State) passed a resolution at a meeting in Calicut at the beginning of this month condemning the Andamans colonisation scheme. This was proposed by Mr. Muhammad Schamnad (of S. Kanara), and supported by Mr. Uppi (of North Malabar) and Mr. T. M. Moidu M. L. C. (of Madras). No local Muhammadan spoke on it. In accordance with that resolution leaflets have been widely distributed in the rebellion area, dissuading Mappila women from migrating. I enclose a translation of this leaflet. I am told that this agitation has had the

effect of making some of the women disinclined to join their husbands in the Andamans. I am not aware that any other meeting has expressed "resentment and protest".

4. I am most strongly opposed to the postponement of the migration of the families which are willing to go to the beginning of July. The colonisation scheme has been amply discussed already, and no further discussion can add anything to what is known. On the other hand, if we do not send these convicts and the families by the ".Maharaja" at the beginning of July, it will be a breach of faith. The Mappila women will naturally think that there is some hitch in the scheme and will entertain vague apprehensions which will be enough to prevent many of them from carrying out their present intention. What the opponents of the scheme desire is not further discussion or information, but a delay which will frustrate the purpose of the scheme. This is not a legitimate device, and I trust that the Government will not comply with the request.

(Sd.)

District Magistrate, Malabar.

Letter dated 4-7-1925 from the Deputy Tahsildar, Ottappalam to the District Magistrate, Malabar

Deputy Tahsildar's Office,
Ottappalam,
Dated 4-7-1925.

To

The District Magistrate,
Malabar, Calicut.

Sir,

Mappila Rebellion-Andamans Colonisation-Deputation of Mappila families-Your Memo DI-3523-25 dated 23-6-1925.

The arrangements ordered in the above memo were not strictly adhered to due to the fact that the Tahsildar, Walluvanad did not get a copy of the memo. All the batches of families did not arrive on 2-7-1925. One family from Narayamangalam Amsam consisting of 7 members arrived on the morning of 2-7-1925. The families from Chalavara numbering 38 were next to arrive and they reached this on the morning of 3-7-1925. A group of families numbering 67 was brought by the Rev. Inspector and Sub Inspector of Police, Mannarghat at 7 p. m. on 3-7-1925. The last to arrive was the batch from Perintalmanna. They numbered 67 and reached Ottappalam by 9.30 p.m. by train on 3-7-1925. There was some difficulty in providing food for the people as they did not arrive at the appointed time. Accommodation however had been provided for these families and they were not inconveniensed on this account. The weather was favourable except for a slight shower just before they were entrained.

2 . A list of the families was prepared on the morning of 4-7-1925. The number of persons men, women and children totalled 179. Copy of the list is submitted herewith. Of these 12 were children under 3 years and no tickets

were purchased for them. Of the remainder 78 were adults and 89 were children and 122½ tickets were purchased for Rs. 1037-8-0 (cash receipt enclosed). The families were duly handed over to the Andamans Tahsildar with a list along with the 9 convicts.

3. One family from Edapetta, wife of convict Kannanpalli Ahamed and 5 children not included in the original list was sent to me by the Tahsildar, Walluvanad for being sent to the Andamans after consulting Andamans Tahsildar. I ascertained from the convicts who were accompanying the families that Ahamed would be willing to take his family. No advance had been paid to her as to the others and I therefore paid her an advance of Rs. 10 for the purchase of clothes etc. Her receipt is enclosed. I have informed the Andamans Tahsildar of the circumstances under which this family has been sent.

4. An advance of Rs. 300 was sent to me by the Tahsildar, Walluvanad. on 1-7-1925. A further advance of Rs. 1,000 was received from the Tahsildar on 3-7-1925. A bill for Rs. 1,500 was also received from the District Magistrate on 3-7-1925 and it was cashed on 4-7-25 from the Palghat Sub Treasury but the amount could be received only after the special train left Ottappalam. The advance of Rs. 1,300 received from the Tahsildar, Walluvanad has been returned to him today. Details of expenditure incurred are given below:

1. 122½ tickets at Rs. 8-7-6 (rail fare)	Rs. 1037-8-0
2. Advance to wife of convict Ahamed	Rs. 10-0-0
3. Feeding charges	Rs. 111-1-6
4. Sanitary arrangements	Rs. 10-0-0
5. Lighting charges	Rs. 0-7-6
Total expenditure	Rs. 1169-1-0

Balance out of Rs. 1500 received from the District Magistrates=330-15-0. This Balance will be credited into the Palghat Sub Treasury and chalan submitted on receipt.

(Sd.)

Deputy Tahsildar.

L. Dis. 85/M-25.

Ponnani Tahsildar's Office
Dated the 7th of July 1925

To

The District Magistrate, Calicut

Sir,

MAPPILLA REBELLION-Andamans colonisation-
Transportation of families. Your Memo Ref. 1-3523-25 dated
1-7-1925.

The Revenue Inspector, Kuttiprom reports that on 3-7-1925 the mother convict No. 45486 Athanikal Kunheem Hajee having got scent of the fact that the convict's mother-in-law had agreed to send the children to their father to the Andamans took them away to her house in Marakkara amsan but that he somehow managed to bring them back to Kurumbathur along with the convict's mother. The convicts mother and mother-in-law persisted in refusing to send the children-On the 4th morning, however, the females again went to the Revenue Inspector and expressed their willingness to send the children. Accordingly the Revenue Inspector took them all to Tirur. Just the Koyakutty, the brother of the convict having come to know that the family had left to Tirur ran up to Tirur at once. On seeing Koyakutty the females felt uneasy to part with the children and eventually frankly refused to part with the children. The Revenue Inspector had to spend Rs. 2 as cart hire to take them to Tirur and annas eight to meet their breakfast expenses. A voucher for Rs. 2 is herewith submitted. The Revenue Inspector has not submitted voucher for annas eight. I am calling for it and I shall submit it on receipt The wife of convict No. 45946 and her son Seydali Kutty were despatched by the Revenue Inspector, Kottakkal, as they happened to go to Kottakkal at the time. The necessary expenses for the family were also incurred by him. In view of the urgency of the matter I had drawn Rs. 50 from the Treasury on a miscellaneous bill and

sent Rs. 25 to each of the Revenue Inspector before receipt of your bill. The unspent balance of Rs. 47-8-0 has now been refunded to the Treasury. The bill received with your memo is herewith resubmitted.

Your obedient servant,

(Sd.)

For *Tahsildar.*

Letter dated 15 July 1925 from the Hon. Secretary 'The Madras Presidency Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society' Madras to the District Magistrate, Calicut

The Madras Presidency Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society

Fort St. George, Madras,
Dated: 15th July 1925

To

The District Magistrate, Calicut.

Sir,

In accordance with your letter No. D-l/3523/25 dated 23rd June 1925, I sent my agent to the Central Station, Madras, who received all the Mappilla families at 8.40 a.m. on 5-7-25 and brought them to the Home at the Siddikh Chedltry, Periamot, specially arranged for the purpose since the present Home could not accommodate all the members at a time. They were given shelter and food untill 8.30 a.m. on 9-7-1925 when they were put on board the steamor "Maharaja".

2. The Society spent Rs. 298-14-6 out of its funds for feeding the party of 292 persons. The conveyance from the station to the Home and from the Home to the Steamer was paid by the Tahsildar, Port Blair.

3. The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Muhammed Usman Sahib Bahadur, Member of the Executive Council of the Governor of Fort St. George visited the place during their stay at Madras.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,
Your most obedient Servant

(Sd.)
Hony. Secretary

Letter dated 23-7-1925 from the Deputy Commissioner, Port Blair to the Collector, Malabar

Deputy Commissioner's Office,
Port Blair,
Dated Aberdeen, the 23rd July, 1925

Dear Sir,

Mr. Govindan has arrived here with the Mopillah families, and has told me how much he is indebted to you for the help you gave him.

I must offer you my thanks for all you did to make the experiment a success. The result is better than I expected, in spite of the political opposition, which we had not foreseen.

It was a great pleasure to be present when the women landed and saw their husbands and friends dressed in their best apparel, awaiting them

With many thanks,

I am,
Yours sincerely,
(Sd.)

To

J.A. Thorne Esq. I.C.S
Collector, Malabar

101. EXTENSION OF FOOD CONCESSION TO PULAYA CONVERTS TO CHRISTIANITY

About 55 years ago Pulaya converts of Amballur submitted a petition to the Governor General pointing out that Pulaya pupils attending schools in Cochin State received clothes, slates, books and one meal a week and that when their children applied for the same indulgence they were informed that the code did not allow this concession to be extended to the Pulaya converts to Christianity. A copy of the above petition and the reply are reproduced below-

Letter dated 5th December 1925, P.2351/I925, from the Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States

I have the honour to enclose a copy of a petition dated 21st September 1925 from the Pulaya Converts of Amballur and to ask you to be so good as to inform me whether the question of extending the food concession to Pulaya Converts to Christianity is under your consideration.

Endorsement on C. *No. 1637/1101.*

Communicated with copy of the enclosure to the Director of Public Instruction for remarks.

(By order)

(Sd.)

For *Secretary to the Diwan*

Office of the Diwan of Cochin,
Local and Miscelleneous Department,
13th December 1925.

Petition dated 21st September 1925 from the Pulaya converts of Amballur C/o. M. P. Petres, B.A., B.D., Lt. to the Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States

The Pulaya (Depressed Class) children, attending school in Cochin State, receive a free noon-meal weekly and when our children applied to the Diector of Public Instruction for the same, a reply was received that, according to the Code, this concession did not apply to converts. We humbly beg to submit that this is a *gross injustice* since adoption of any religion does not in any way alter material conditions. The State stand for equality of treatment regardless of caste or creed and we, being a poverty-stricken Pulaya community, request you to be gracious enough to advice the Cochin Government not to deprive us of this and other concession simply because we have recently adopted the religion of His Majesty the King Emperor. In Travancore, all concessions, to the Pulaya children apply to the Pulaya converts also.

(Sd.)

For secretary to the Diwan

Ref. on C.No.5271 of 1101. Office of the Director of Public Instruction,

Trichur,

Dated: 23rdJanuary 1929.

From

C. Matthai, Esq.,
Director of Public Instruction

To

The Secretary to the Diwan,
Local & Miscellaneous Department.

Sir,

With reference to Endt. on C.No.1637/01, dated 13-12-1925, I have th honour to report that Pulaya pupils in schools are supplied with books, slates cloths, and one meal a week but Pulaya converts are not allowed any of these concessions, presumably on the ground that when once they are converted to other religions they cease to be Pulayas. But it is also true that their economic condition does not improve immediately after their conversion, and it may be for this reason that the concessions are extended to converts in Travancore and British India. If converts to Christianity are given benefits of the con cessions, the same may have to be given to converts Muhammadanism Buddhism, and perhaps to Aryasamaj. The question will also have to be decided as to how long these concessions should be continued to those Pulayas who have adopted other religions.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

(Sd.)

Director

102. BEGINNING OF ELECTRIFICATION SCHEME IN TRIVANDRUM CITY

Eventhough the idea was first proposed in December 1897 and an estimate prepared as indicated in our Newsletter (No.4 Vol. III December 1978), sanction was given only in 1928 by Her Highness Setu Lakshmi Bai, Regent Maharani (1100-1107 M.E). This document is thus a land mark in the History of the Travancore State.

Letter No.D.A./P.W469/8349.
Dated 19th July 1928

Account Office Form No. 2
G.P.T.1514,5000. 9-10-1103.

ACCOUNT OFFICE,
TRIVANDRUM

From

THE ACCOUNT OFFICER,
TRIVANDRUM.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.

Subject:

Sir,

I have the honour to request that you will be so good as to obtain and communicated early the sanction of Government to the consolidated estimate for Rs. 4,10,800 for the Trivandrum Electric Supply Scheme forwarded to you by the Chief Engineer in his letter No.l761 dated 2nd June 1928, as large amounts are kept under objection in the books of this office for want of the sanction.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
Assistant Account Officer,
For *Account Officer*

Secretariat Form No. 14
G.P.T.1456, 50,000. 29-9-1102.

DRAFT

To

(The Palace)

ROC.No. 3159/28/PW. Dated 11 Aug. 1928

Subject

My Dear Sir,

Referring to your D.O.No.2932/89/27, dated the 29th August 1927, conveying provisional sanction to the wholly oil Engine Scheme, for the supply Electricity to the Trivandrum Town as out lined by Mr.K.P.P.Menon the of Electrical Engineer estimated to cost Rs.2.75 lakhs, I enclose, for submission to Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent, an estimate (with plans) received from the Chief Engineer, for Rs.4,10,800, on account of the works connected with the scheme. This estimate does not include the amount required under land compensation charges connected with the scheme, for which Mr. Vaipin has promised to submit a separate estimate. Though the cost of the scheme, as originally estimated was only Rs. 2. 751akhs, roughly, the same had to be revised according to the present estimate, mainly because the distribution line under the scheme had to be increased by ten miles over and above the 16 miles originally contemplated vide your D.O. No. 1419/89 of 27, dated the 7th April 1928. I request that Her Highness may be pleased to sanction the estimate for Rs. 4,10,800 for the work in question.

A sum of Rs.I *1/2* lakhs has been provided for the work in the budget for 1103, and lumpsum provision of Rs. 3,44,000 is to be provided for the Trivandrum Electric Supply and Telephone schemes together in the budget for 1104.

I am etc.
(Sd.)
10-8-1928.
(Diwan)

K. Narayanan Pandalay Esq. B.A.,B.L.,
P.S. to H.H. The Maha Rani Regent

Palace Form No. 81
G.P.T.754.4,000 27-5-1103.

No.3380/
89/27

Palace, Trivandrum,
17th August, 1928.

My Dear Sir,

With reference to your D.O.R.O.C.No. 31 59/28/P.W. dated the 11th instant, I beg to inform you that Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent has been pleased to sanction the estimate forwarded therewith for Rs (410800) four lakhs, ten thousand and eight hundred, on account of the works connected with the Trivandrum Electric Supply Scheme.

The enclosures to your D.O. under reference are herewith returned.

I am, My dear Sir,

Yours faithfully

(Sd.)

M.E.Watts Esquire B.A.,Bar-at-Law,
Diwan of Travancore.

Secerariate Form No.14
G.P.T.1229, 30,000 4-10-1103

DRAFT

To

The Chief Engineer,
Travancore.

R.Dis.No.1158/28/PW. Dated 23rd August 1928

Subject:- Electric Supply Scheme – Estimate (recast) for–

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 1761 dated the 2nd June 1928, I have the honour to inform you that Government sanction the estimate, forwarded therewith, for Rs. 4,10,800(four lakhs, ten thousand and eight hundred) on account of the Trivandrum Electric Supply Scheme, exclusive of the cost of land.

It is noted that funds to the extent of Rs. 3.44 lakhs have been provided in the 1104 budget for the work, over and above Rs. 1.5 lakhs provided in last year's budget.

The plans forwarded by you are returned.

I have etc.

February 1.

Copy to A.O. with ref. to his letter No.A.A.P.W,469/8349 dated 19th July, 1928

February, 1.

Copy with the estimate to the Financial Secretary to be returned. He is requested to note on the Financial aspect of the scheme as already required in G.O. Docket ROC. 6073/27/PW dated 16-1-1928 on the basis of the revised estimate.

February, 1

(Sd.)

Copies to the General File

103. CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING THE FORMATION OF A FIRE BRIGADE

Important and overdue administrative decisions are some times taken due to compelling circumstances. Eventhough the fire brigade was there in Trivandrum even in earlier times, it was the fire which broke out at the Guest House used by distinguished visitors like the Viceroy which persuaded the Travancore Government to consider the formation of a Fire Brigade.

TRAVANCORE P.W.D.

Letter No. 807 CHIEF ENGINEER'S OFFICE TRIVANDRUM
Dated 14 - 3-1930.

From

ALFRED VIPAN ESQUIRE, M.I.C.E.,
Chief Engineer.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.

Subject: Fire Fighter.

Reference: Government D.Dis No. 434 of 29/P.W. dated 11-2-1929.

Sir,

I have the honour to state for the information of Government that an accidental fire occurred at the Guest House on 21-2-30 and three temporary thatched latrines put up in connection with His Excellency the Viceroy's visit situated near the north compound wall were burnt down. The approximate measurements and cost of the sheds are given at foot.

The fire broke out at 1.0 p.m. and Fire Fighter was immediately sent to the site. But before the Fire Fighter reached the place, the thatched latrines had

nearly burnt out. When the message that a fire broke out in the Guest House compound reached the Workshops & Stores Division Office neither the Division Officer nor the Assistant Engineer was in office and the works-shops were closed. The key of the Workshops is in the Personal custody of one of these two officers. To avoid delay, the lock had to be broken and the Fire Fighter taken out. As the working hours of the workshops arc limited, it will not be possible to take the Fire Fighter outside at easy notice when a fire occurs outside workshops hours. Hence I consider it not advisable to keep the fire fighter within the workshops further. I have to state that the Fire extinction is not a part of the duties of the P.W.D. and is legitimately the duty of the Police. In cases of emergency a disciplined, force of men at the hand is always required to accompany the Fire Fighter and it is only the Police Department in Trivandrum that has such a body of men. I therefore request that for the reasons dated above Government may be pleased to issue orders to transfer the fire fighter to the Police Department for being kept under the charge and control of that Department.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most obedient servant
(Sd.)
14-3-1930
Chief Engineer.

1 shed 27 x 12½
1 shed 25 x 12½ } COSTING Rs. 157-15-0
1 shed 17 x 12 ½

Office of the Commissioner of Police,
Trivandrum, 3rd May 1934.

C.309/Judl.
5-5-1934.

From
M.R. Ry. Rao Bahadur,
N. Ramanuju Iengar Avl., B.A.,
Commissioner of Police, Travancore.

To
The Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir,

Ref:-Your R.O.C. 3074/32/Judicial, dated 10th April 1934.

Sub:-Fire Brigade-Formation of.

I have the honour to submit that neither novelty nor originality is claimed for my proposals. No one is more alive than I am to the truth of the old adage "that there is no new thing upon the earth, and that all novelty is but oblivion". More particularly is this so in institutions where mere human agency is concerned. I note that this question of the Fire Brigade has been before the Government for at least five years as R.O.C. No. 300/Genl/29 of Mr. Bishop would indicate. My only desire is to get a move on; and while doing so to be as up-to-date as possible. Since Mr. Bishop's proposal we have advanced 5 years and every year may take it the world advances by at least five years in these days, leaving each of its predecessors behind in an arithmetical progression of five. When Mr. Bishop sent up his proposals, perhaps trailers were little known, or had not come into use.

2. I have since examined Mr. Bishop's scheme and I find that mine is more or less exactly the same; which, I beg to submit makes not my case, but the case, stronger. Brought up in the same seminary, it could not be far otherwise than that our views should very little. My scheme varies from Mr. Bishop's in this, that mine is more comprehensive and comparatively less expensive.

3. Mr. Bishop's proposals for a Brigade was in respect of manning and controlling a single Fire Engine now kept in the P. W. D. workshop after taking it over to this Department. He has suggested a strength of 2 Head Constables and 13 Constables for the Fire Brigade over and above the driver, cleaner and lascars now attached to the Fire Engine. The cost for the strength, clothing etc., is estimated at Rs. 3768 per year.

4. My additional point is that a Town like Trivandrum should consist against a possible contingency of breakdown-for after all a Fire Engine is a machine of at least 2 Fire Engines with up-to-date equipments, and a minimum crew of 30 men-15 for each Fire Engine including drivers and cleaners *not in addition to them* as proposed by Mr. Bishop, thus effecting a saving in man-power and consequent recurring expenditure. I also suggested the necessity for purchasing a Trailer for reason stated in my letter under reference The estimated cost for the maintenance and control of the 2 *Fire Engines and Trailer* according to my scheme comes to Rs. 6628 per year. It will there-fore be seen that the cost is much less than that which is calculated by Mr. Bishop to be necessary for maintenance and control of *single* Fire Engine. The Government will no doubt have to incur an additional expenditure for the purchase of a second Fire Engine and a trailer. This, however, is not a recurring expenditure and I have proposed to find this capital expenditure from the savings this year.

5. Regards accommodation, there is at present one garage in my office which I am prepared to utilize for the stabling of One Fire Engine and I shall also find room in my own office for berthing the other. The present annexes in which the Finger Print Bureau is located could with slight alterations and nominal expense be made to accommodate both the engines and the trailer and I find no difficulty regarding accommodation for the present. The old proposal was to accommodate the Fire Brigade in the proposed Reserve Quarters in the old Chackai Railway Station grounds, which no doubt is ideal. This question of quarters for the Reserve has been hanging fire for years and although Commissioner after Commissioner has been impressing upon the urgent need for building quarters to the Reserve for many years past, and I have estimates and plans ready for the conversion of the abandoned Chackai Railway Station

which has been all but decided to be handed over. I suspect by what is called "intelligent anticipation" that this is not likely to be handed over to the police, after all the trouble taken by generations of Police officers. I devoutly hope that this intelligent anticipation may turn out the most erroneous. We thus find ourselves between the horns of a dilemma. ''You have no accommodation, therefore you will not have the Fire Brigade" and when with difficulty accommodation is found and proposals are made' the proposals will perhaps be turned down. So goes the virtuous circle and we, shall be left where we are, sans accommodation, sans advancement, sans everything. I may be pardoned for arguing vehemently. My apology is my zeal, and a burning desire to do my best to get a move on, qualities which often make up for the want of parts. Even now not a single Constable has been provided with quarters except perhaps those serving in the High Ranges. It is precisely because of this that I proposed two crews so that when one is "off duty" the other may be "on duty" in readiness at the Head Quarter Office.

6. This question of Fire Brigade seems to be nobody's child at present. I crave a reference to the letter of the Chief Engineer No. 807, dated 14-3-1930 copy of which is herewith enclosed for easy reference. That letter refers to an outbreak of fire in the Viceregal Camp and the breakdown of the agency in charge, for the want of a key-like the nursery rhyme which says that the kingdom- -was lost for the want of a horse-show nail. When the agency break down the policeman is sought, and responsibility disowned. That letter too distinctly ;advocates the handing over of the responsibility to the police. The P.W.D. do not want it; the Police are willing to accept it; But the Government would appear to want to wait till the question of accommodation is solve ·which at present seems to spell 'never'. I trust that Government will see their way to give effect to the proposals.

7. The year is coming to a close and the savings will have to be surrendered if orders are not passed at once. The future is on the laps of the Gods and we do not know whether the financial stringency will cease or tighten, as it depends on world conditions. I would, therefore, beg of Government to my proposals. It will of course be my earnest endeavour to strain every nerve to bring about maximum efficiency with minimum expenditure, and if savings are possible in

the actual working, to effect such, in the best interests - of Government. I pray for very early orders before the financial year closes.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd).

3/5/34

Commissioner of Police

C.4333/Judl.
23-6-1934.

Copy of letter No. BK. L. 1 of 09 dated 19-6-1934 from the Financial Secretary to Government to the Chief Secretary to Government.

I have the honour to inform you that the Dewan has agreed to the provisions detailed at foot being omitted from the next years budget. I request that you

will be so good as to communicate to me the formal orders of the Government for the same. These items are included in the list forwarded to me by various sections of the Secretariat.

(2) Proposal for the formation of a fire-fighting unit. Rs. 10,035

R. O. C. No. 3958/34/Devpt.

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum,
22 June, 1934.

Forwarded to the Judicial Section, for information and necessary action.

(Sd).
22-6-1934.
Assistant Secretary to Government

104. PROTECTION OF THE DEPRESSED CLASSES

Amelioration of the depressed and down-trodden classes has been a matter serious consideration of Government at all times, especially since independence.

It may be of interest to note that the idea of appointing an officer known as Protector for the Depressed Classes' in Cochin State originated from a British Diwan Mr. C. G. Herbert. Reproduced below is a relevant letter on the subject.

D. O. No. 147-1/1106. Camp. Nermara,
dated, 19th December, 1930.

Your Highness,

I have been giving very careful thought to the appointment of a Protector for the Depressed Classes and have come to the conclusion that in all circumstances Mr. V. R. M. Chohan would be the best selection for the post. He is well qualified by education and has for many years been taking a keen interest in the welfare of these classes. I would suggest therefore that he should be appointed as Protector-in the first instance on probation for one year. It would also I think be advantageous if he were to spend a period of three months under the District Labour Officer in Malabar so that he could obtain an insight into the organisation of the department there and subsequently use his knowledge in his work in the State. I would suggest that he should receive the same pay as a Tahsildar ie. Rs. 150-250.

I am,
Your Highness' most obedient Servant,
(Sd.)
C. G. HERBERT.

His Highness Sir Sri Rama Varma, G. C. I. E.,
Maharaja of Cochin.

105. CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING THE CONTROVERSY OF THE LARGE PROCESSION OF ABOUT 2000 MEN WITH PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

Unlawful assembly in the Fort, Trivandrum was prohibited according to ancient practice. It was the function of civilian authorities to determine whether crowds were lawful or unlawful. On the evening of of the 25th May 1931 when a large procession of about 2000 men with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru arrived, it became a matter of controversy. The true copy of the correspondence is given below.

Confidential

Rao Sahib

Parameswar lyer, M.A., B.L.
District Magistrate,
Trivandrum

Camp, Kuzhithura,
6-11-1106

My dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your D.O. R.O.C: No. 3355/32/J dated the 18th June 1931, regarding the procession on the night of the 25th May 1931 in connection with the arrival of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in Trivandrum. It is stated therein that the Commandant, Nayar Brigade, has issued order to the Subadar in command of the Fort guard that when an unauthorised procession or crowd or mob collects in the Fort, he should at once send a message to the District Magistrate and ask him for orders as to what action is to be taken by the Fort guard. Until I received this D.O. was not aware of the existance of such an order by the Commandant, nor has he favoured me with a copy of it hitherto.

2. What exactly happened on the night of the 25th May 1931 may be summarised as follows: That was the day of the counting of votes in respect of the Kalkulam-cum-Vilavancode Constituency in my office, and the Trivandrum-cum-Nedumangad Constituency in the Division Assistant' office, both within the Fort. I finished the counting of votes in respect of the former constituency, announced the result, directed the huge crowd which had gathered outside my office to know the result, to dispense and went to the Fort Police Station outside the eastern Fort Gate. It was about 8 p.m then. The counting of votes had not come to a close in the Division Assistant's office and another large crowd was awaiting its result within the Fort.

3. Mr. B. Nanu Pillai, the District Superintendent of Police, Trivandrum was in the Fort Police Station when I reached it. An unprecedentedly enormous crowd had collected by that time along the whole route from the Eastern Fort Gate to Karamana and also in the main road from the eastern fort gate along Pazhavangadi. I was discussing with Mr. Nanu Pillai the arrangements to be made in connection with the control of this crowd in the office room of the Police Inspector in that Station, when a man in *mufti* appeared before me, who, from the trend of his conversation, appeared to be one of the officers attached to the military guard within the Fort but, whom I did not know to be the Subadar in command of the guard. He said that there was a time-honoured custom of political and other huge processions of a similar nature not being allowed to pass along the streets within the fort, that, since the lodging arranged for Pandit Nehru was Mr. Madhavan Tampi's house at Perunthanni, the procession might possibly pass through the Fort Streets, and that in such a case, the ancient practice, which was still in force, had to be enforced unless the Commandant or myself issued orders to the contrary. Upon this, I consulted Mr. Nanu Pillai, in his presence and hearing Mr. Nanu Pillai stated that Mr. K. G. Kunju Krishna Pillai and other organisers of the reception of the Pandit, who were responsible for the procession had only arranged for the procession passing along the main road outside the Fort Via Pazhavangadi to Pulimoodu, that no request had been made by the organisers to the Police for helping them to take the procession inside the Fort, that the necessary Police arrangements had been made on the distinct understanding that the procession would be taken only along the main road to Pulimood, and that it was not possible at the nick of time to fetch an additional posse of Police for controlling

the crowd inside the Fort. In the meantime, the crowd was swelling minute after minute. I had, in a moment, to realise the ideals associated with Pandit Jawaharlal's name. I remembered that the communist leaflet issued by N. P. Kurukal had only been recently suppressed in all the Districts of the State. Whichever route the mob might take inside the Fort, it has to pass in front of more than one Palace, and any the least demonstration in front of anyone of them by even a single irresponsible units of that mob, in which I understood there were several until, from British India also whose slogan might be "victory to the revolution", "Bhagat Singh Zindabad", etc., was bound to be brought with serious consequences. In these circumstances after curfew time, with insufficient Police and when there was already a large crowd inside the Fort, it struck the District Superintendent of Police and myself that we would be running an in calculable risk, if we allowed such a procession to pass inside the Fort. If the organisers of the procession had consulted me or the District Superintendent of Police before hand or if it had been day times, it would have been a different matter. At the same time I directed the District Superintendent of Police to approach the Pandit and Mr. K. G. Kunjukrishna Pillai, as they arrived near the eastern Fort gate, inform them of the existence of the ancient custom referred to above, say that no police arrangements had been made for the conduct of the procession inside the Fort because there was no requisition from the organisers to that effect, and point out that while there was absolutely no objection to the vehicles of the Pandit and his followers and also the organisers to pass along the Fort streets, the procession as such could not be let in. It was expected that this explanation would satisfy both the Pandit and the organisers. All this conversation took place in the presence of the military officer himself who took part in it. No doubt, one of the sentences I spoke to him was that I could not give orders and that he should use his discretion. What was meant by me and understood by all of us thereby at the time was that I could not issue orders for the passage of the procession as such inside the Fort, in the face of the time-honoured custom referred to by the officer, and that if only the Pandit and a few persons wanted to go inside the Fort, the military officer should use his discretion, theDistrict Superintendent of Police, who would accompany the Pandit upto the Fort gate would be close at hand to guide him. The officer seemed satisfied with these directions and left us.

4. To what subsequently transpired I was not myself an eye-witness, but it is common knowledge and it is the D.S.P.'s oral version that owing to the impossibility of taking his car along the Chalai bazaar road on account of the huge crowd which had collected on, either side, the Pandit had to alight therefrom and rush along to the eastern fort gate, it being impossible for Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai and other organisers to keep pace with him.

5. These facts are admitted by the Jawaharlal Reception Committee themselves, who say in their report: "For the sake of regulating traffic, the Committee had notified the authorities concerned that the procession would start from the Killi bridge proceed along the Chali bazaar upto the east fort and hence along the main road as far as Pulimood. But the procession could come hardly half way of the Chalai bazaar when the tremendous rush of humanity rendered its further progress well nigh impossible. At this stage Panditji jumped out of his car in an instant and walked ahead with the crowd surging in on him from all sides. We lost touch with him and when the crowd came near the east fort gate, somebody from the crowd directed Panditji that the way to his residence lay through the Fort".

6. Since no car was visible, the District Superintendent of Police could not know that the Pandit had passed along and by the time he could know it, the Pandit and his followers had sought an entry at the eastern or Pazhavangadi Fort gate (there are two versions about this) and the procession not being allowed, were taking it outside the Fort along the southern Fort gate. Thus the District Superintendent of Police could not get an opportunity for explaining to the Pandit or Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai the real situation at that time. The direction to the Pandit to enter the Fort, contrary to the arrangements of the Reception Committee, appears to havebeen given, according to the Committee's report, by "somebody from the crowd" which shows to what extent these arrangements had got disorganised. On the morning of the next day, the Pandit referred to this incident in his reply to the Municipal address presented to him, whereupon the District Superintendent of Police and Mr. T.R. Raman Pillai, the local Assistant Superintendent of Police, went to Mr. Madhavan Tampi's house and explained to the Pandit in the presence of Mr. Kunjuknshna Pillai, how permission to take the procession inside the Fort had never been applied for by the organisers, and how in the face of a long-existing practice, the procession could not be allowed to pass inside the Fort,

the previous night without specific Police arrangements. Both the Pandit and Mr. Kunjuknshna Pillai expressed satisfaction at this explanation, and it is somewhat surprising that the Reception Committee should have now struck a different note in their report. It is now stated by them that the Pandit assured the Military that he only wanted to reach his residence with three or four others. If this had been so, there could have been no objection whatever to such a course of action and the Military could have well used its discretion and allowed these four or five persons who could in no sense constitute a procession, mob or crowd, to pass along. Possibly, the Subadar himself was at one Fort gate, while the passage was sought along another, and hence the confusion.

I am,

My dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

S. PARAMESWARA AIYAR,

6-11-06.

To

K. George Esquire B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government.
Trivandrum.

R. O. C. No. 3355/31/Judicial.

Trivandrum,
October 1931

My Dear Sir,

I enclose, for submission to Her Highness the Maharani Regent, the correspondence noted at foot, regarding the refusal to allow the procession in connection with the arrival of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in Trivandrum to pass through the Fort on the night of the 25th May 1931. The Commandant, Nayar Brigade, says that he has given orders to the Subadar in command of the Fort Guard that when an unauthorized procession or crowd or mob collects in the Fort he is at once to send a message to the District Magistrate and ask him for orders as to what action is to be taken by the Fort Guard, that on the evening of the 25th May 1931, when a large procession with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was about to enter the Fort and before the procession arrived, the Subadar himself went to the District Magistrate and asked for orders as to whether the procession was to be allowed to enter the Fort or not and that the District Magistrate told the Subadar in reply that he could not give orders and that the Subadar must do as he liked.

2. The District Magistrate, Trivandrum, to whom a reference was made on the subject, has admitted that he told the Subadar on the occasion that he could not give orders and that he (the Subadar) should use his discretion From the District Magistrate's letter it is seen that the Subadar reported to him at the time that there was a time-honoured custom of political and other huge processions not being allowed to pass along the streets within the Fort, that since the lodging arranged for Pandit Nehru was Mr. Madhavan Tampi's house at Perunthanni the procession might possibly pass through the Fort streets and that, in such a case, the ancient practice, which was still in force, had to be enforced unless the Commandant or the District Magistrate issued orders to the contrary. The District Magistrate also says that the crowd was rather uncontrollable and that no Police arrangements had previously been made to admit of the procession being allowed to pass through the Fort and refers to the possibility of any undesirable demonstrations being made before any of the palace inside the Fort by some irresponsible units of that mob. The real situation at the time appears to have been that the District Magistrate was against admitting the procession as such into the Fort, but could not decide on

which ground the prohibition should be based, on public safety or on the time-honoured custom. It was in these circumstances that he gave a rather unsatisfactory reply to the Subadar. I consider that it was Mr. Parameswara Aiyar's duty as District Magistrate to take measures for the preservation of order and that at the time the Subadar approached him he should have assumed definite responsibility and given the Subadar clear instructions in the matter. I therefore propose informing Mr. Parameswara Aiyar that he should have made his orders to the Subadar clearer and more definite.

Awaiting Her Highness' commands

I am,

My dear Sir,
Yours faithfully.

To

N. Krishnan Oonnithan Esq.,

Ag. Private Secretary to Her Highness the Maharani Regent.

1. Letter No. S. O. 2/7/1094, dated the 26th May 1931. from the Commandant, Nayar Brigade.

2. D. O. R. O. C. No. 3335/31/Judl. dated the 18th June 1931, to the District Magistrate, Trivandmm.

3. D.O. dated the 6th Mithunam 1106, from Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.

No. S. O. 2/7/1140 C. 7323/Judl./25-2-32.

Nayar Brigade Office,
Trivandrum,

23rd February 1932.

From

Major C. P. Turner, M. C.,
Commandant, Nayar Brigade.

To

The Dewan ofTravancore,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

With reference to your letter R. O. C. No. 3355/31/Judl. dated 16-2-1932, I have the honour to state that I do not wish sentries to be invested with power in such cases. The duty of a sentry is to obey orders.

2. The Police or the District Magistrate are the authorities to classify crowds as lawful or unlawful. I suggest therefore that the Senior Indian Officer in Command in the Fort should allow all crowds inside the Fort unless he has written orders from either the Police or the District Magistrate that he is not to do so.

3. I know of no guards and sentries on any Fort of a like nature.

4. I should be grateful if sanction to my suggestion in para 2 may be passed at the earliest possible moment, as crowds, both lawful and unlawful, may gather at any time.

I have the Honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
Major,
Command, Nayar Brigade.

To

The Commandant,
Nayar Brigade.

No. 720/32/Judl. Dated, 16 March 1932

Sub:- (i) Admission of unlawful crowds into the Fort area in Trivandrum responsibility of the Military, Police and Magistracy with

(ii) Failure of Mr. S. Parameswara Aiar, District Magistrate, Trivandrum to issue definite instructions to the Military regarding procession in connection with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's arrival in May 19, 1931.

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. S. O. 2/7/1140, dated the 23rd February 1932, I have the honour to inform you that, in the circumstances Government approve your suggestion that the Senior Indian Officer in Command in the Fort should allow all crowds inside the Fort unless he has written orders from either the Police or the District Magistrate to the contrary. I may, however, inform you that this order should not be construed to mean that the previous permission of the Senior Indian Officer should be insisted on in every case in which a lawful crowd has to be admitted into the Fort, or that the responsibilities of the military in regard to manifestly unlawful crowds, under section 114 of the Criminal Procedure Code are in anyway minimised.

I have etc.,
For *the Dewan.*

1. Copy to the Commissioner of Police.

2. Copy to the District Magistrate, Trivandrum, in continuation of this office R. O. C. No. 3355/318, dated the 30th Oct. 1931.

106. MUSEUM-ORNITHOLOGICAL BRANCH-SURVEY BY SALIM ALI

Ornithology is a branch of science which developed in recent decades. Long before the attainment of its present status, Dr. Salim Ali distinguished himself as a lover of birds. His death on the 19th of 1987 at the age of 91 is a great loss to all ornithologists.

Dr. Ali born in 1896 had his degree in Zoology from St. Xaviers College, Bombay. His love for birds made him associate himself with the Bombay Natural History Society and later he became its President. In recognition of his meritorious services he was honoured with a number of awards and titles like Padmasri, Padmavibhushan, etc.

He has published a number of works which include book on "Indian birds, the hand-book of Indian birds and the fall of sparrow". Dr. Ali had a thorough knowledge of every nook and corner of this sub continent. Keralites really owe much to him for his authentic account of "Birds of Travancore".

The following are certain records of 1932 sanctioning grants to that distinguished ornithologist by the erstwhile Government of Travancore. It may be of interest to note that "Keralathile Pakshikal" by Prof. Induchoodan is based on Ali's- works at large. The correspondence shows the great interest taken by the State in such subjects in those days.

D. O. 5887/32 Office of the Chief Conservator of Forests,
Camp: Ootacamund,
22-8-932

My Dear Austin,

Spence, of the Bombay Natural History Society, has written to ask if I can help to enlist your sympathy on behalf of Mr. Salim Ali's ornithological work. He is working here at the moment, and I do what I can to help him but he desires to take up the survey of Travancore and I should imagine work of the kind would be useful to the State.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerly,

(Sd.)

To

T. Austin Esq., I. C. S.,
Diwan of Travancore,
Trivandrum.

Bombay Natural History Society,
6, APOLLO Street,
Bombay.

Patrons:
H. E. The Viceroy of India,
G. M. S. I., G. C. M. G.,
G M. I. E., G. B. E.,
H. R. H. The Prince of Wales, K. G.

President:
H. E. The Governor of Bombay;
Vice President:
H. H. The Maharao of Cutch;
G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E.,

18th August 1932.

The Diwan,
Travancore State,
Trivandrum.

Dear Sir,

The society has recently undertaken a scientific survey of the Madras Presidency in which the Zoological Survey of India co-operates.

Specially trained Collectors with knowledge of their subjects were employed in carrying out the work.

The ornithological side of the work was undertaken by Mr. V. S. Lapersonne and Mr. Salim Ali both of whom are ornithologists of considerable experience in survey work.

The scientific results of the survey are now appearing in a series of papers in the Journal of the Natural History Society Mr. Kinnear of the Bird Department of the British Museum and Mr. H. Whistler who is an authority on Indian Birds have recently communicated with the Society as to the necessity of carrying out surveys of Hyderabad State and of Travancore State with a view to obtaining material to link up the data obtained from the Eastern Ghats with that available from Western India so that a true perspective of the ornithological Fauna of the Peninsular region could be obtained. The survey

of the Hyderabad State has since been carried out by Mr. Salim Ali and it is now proposed with your co-operation and help to carry Ornithological survey of the Travancore State.

The following is a brief plan of the suggested survey:-

On the Eastern side from North to South.

1. Kunjinad or Kunthali (Annamalai Hills)
2. Kallar (Cardamom Hills)
3. Kizhekudi (Periyar Lake)
4. Perum Parai
5. Aramboli
6. Comorin

On the Western side, North to South.

7. Kotamangalam
8. Mannanchori or Kumaragam (Vembanad Lake)
9. Pathananmthitta
10. Attingal (Near Anjengo) or Trivandrum environs.

The survey should take about 5 months allowing about 15 days for each camp. It is hoped that the officials of your Government Museum will co-operate in the work or if possible send a representative to join the survey party. The facilities that our collector would require are-

(1) Free use of Dak and Inspection Bungalows and Forest Rest House, also loan of Government Tents where necessary.

(2) Assistance from Revenue, Police and Forest officials. Further I am writing to ask whether the Travancore State would be willing to give a grant of Rs. 2,000 towards the cost of the survey. A similar grant was made by the Hyderabad State in connection with the expenses of the survey carried out in Hyderabad Territory.

The material obtained by the survey would first be worked out at the British Museum and a full report published in the Journal of the Society. Types of new species described would be lodged in the National collection. As regards the rest of the material the Travancore State would have a claim on

the collection made and a complete set of specimens available would be presented to the state.

I hope that the State will see its way to co-operate with the society on the lines suggested and to give us its assistance in carrying out this important work.

I should be glad to hear from you on the subject.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.)

Honorary Secretary

Sir REGINALS SPENCE,

(Kt. M. L. C., F. Z. S.)

No. R.O.C. 3612/32/E. Trivandrum

19th September, 1932.

My dear Sir,

I enclose, for submission to His Highness the Maharaja, letter dated 18th August, 1932 from the Honorary Secretary, Bombay Natural History Society, regarding the conduct of an ornithological survey in Travancore. He states that Mr. Kinnear of the bird department of the British Museum and Mr. H. Whistler who is authority on Indian birds have recently communicated with the society as to the necessity of carrying out surveys in Hyderabad and Travancore states, with a view to obtaining material to link up to the data obtained for the eastern ghats with that available from Western India, so that, a true perspective of the ornithological fauna of the Peninsular region could be obtained. It is stated that the Survey of the Hyderabad State has been carried out by Mr. Salim A. Ali, for which the State made a grant of Rs. 2,000 and that, for carrying out a survey of this State, the co-operation of this Government is solicited. The Secretary has requested that a similar grant may be made from this State towards the cost of the survey and promises to present a complete set of the specimens of the collections available, to this State. In the circumstances I recommend that a grant of Rs. 2,000 may be sanctioned towards the cost of the survey and request that His Highness may be pleased

to sanction my recommendation.

I am, my dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
For *The Diwan.*

A. Nallaperumal Pillai Esq.,
Sarvadhikariakar, Palace.

No. 3156

Palace, Trivandrum,
23rd September, 1932.

My dear Sir,

With reference to your D.O.R.O.C. No. 3612/32/E dated the 19th September 1932, I beg to inform you that as recommended, His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to sanction the grant of Bh. Rs. (2,000) two thousand towards the expenses of conducting an ornithological survey in Travancore.

The enclosure to your D.O. under reference is herewith returned.

I am, My dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Sd.).

T. Austin Esquire I.C.S., Bar-at-Law,
Diwan of Travancore.
R. Dis. No. 11 13/32/E. Huzur Cutcherry,

Trivandrum, 3rd October, 1932.

To

The Honorary Secretary,
Bombay Natural History Society,
6, Appollo Street, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated the 18th August 1932, regarding the ornithological survey by Mr, Salim A. AIi, I have the honour to inform you that the Government of His Highness the Maharaja have been pleased to sanction a grant of Bh, Rs (2,000) two thousand towards the cost of the survey in Travancore.

2. The Superintendent, Government Museum and Public Garden, Trivandrum has been asked to co-operate in the work and, if possible, to send one of his subordinates to join the survey party on receipt of information from the party.

3. Instruction, have also been issued for the Travel1ers' Banglows, camp sheds and Forest Rest Houses being placed at the disposal of the survey party free of rent and for Government tents being given to the party on loan.

4. The Commissioner of Police, the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner and the Conservator of Forests have been asked to arrange for the necessary assistance being rendered the party on their requisition.

5, Government note that the State will have a claim on the Collection made as a result of the survey and that a complete set of specimens will be presented to the State.

I have etc.,

For C. S.

(2) Copy (with copy of the letter dated 18-8.1932 from the Honorary

Secretary, Bombay Natural History Society) forwarded to Superintendent Government Museum and Public Garden, Trivandrum for information and necessary action.

For C. S.

(3) Similarly to the Chief Engineer. He is requested to arrange for T.B.'s and camp sheds being placed at the disposal of the survey party and the Government tents being given to them on loan.

For C. S.

(4) Copy, with copy of letter dated 18-8-1932 from the Honorary Secretary, Bombay Natural History Society forwarded to the Commissioner of police, for information and necessary action.

For C. S.

(5) & (6) Similarly to the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner and Conservator of Forests for information and necessary action.

For C. S.

(7) Copy to Account Officer for information. Separate orders will issue as to the date when the amount is to be disbursed.

For C. S.

Copy to the Revenue Section, Acting Asst. Secretary.

Copy to the P. W. Section.

Copy to the Development Section.

Copy to the Judicial Section, Acting Asst. Secretary

PRESS NOTE

Government propose to arrange for an ornithological survey of the State by Mr. Salim A. Ali of the Bombay Natural History Society and have sanctioned a sum of Bh. Rs. (2,000) two thousand towards the cost of the survey. The materials obtained by the survey would first be worked out at the British Museum and a full report published in the journal of the society. Types of new species described would be lodged in the Natural collections and as regards the rest of the material, this Government would have a claim on the collection made and a complete set of specimens available would be presented to the State.

Assistant Secretary to Government.

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum, 3rd October 1932.

R. Dis. No. 1113/32/E

Trivandrum,
5th October, 1932.

My dear Richmond,

I am in receipt of your D.O. dated the 22nd August 1932 regarding Mr. Salim Ali's ornithological work. I am asking Mr. Salim Ali to take up the survey of Travancore. A grant of Rs. 2,000 towards the cost of the survey and the State Officers continuance have been to afford every facility of Mr. Salim Ali and his party.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.)
Dewan.

To

R. D. Richmond. Esq., C. I. E.,
Chief Conservator of Forests,
Madras

107. CALLING FOR INFORMATION REGARDING TRAINED PIGEONS FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE

We have heard of various military devices viz. guerilla warfare, Camoflague, Concealment etc. The use of birds was also common.

The follwoing is a correspondence between the British Government and the Travancore Sirkar (1935) about the availability of trained Pigeons. This will also show the mode of official correspondence at the time when Travancore was an auxilliary state ruled by the Maharaja under the British Government.

SECRET

Office of the A. G. G.,
Madras States,
Trivandrum, 27th December, 1935

No. 96/35

From

Lieut Colonel, W.A. Garstin, C. B. E.,
Agent to the Governor General,
Madras States.

To

The Diwan of Travancore
Provision in peace of Pigeon lofts required on mobilization

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the military authorities are required to maintain a record of the number of Pigeons (trained birds of the "carrier" and "homer" types) which may be obtained from civil sources on mobilisation. I shall be grateful therefore, if you will kindly ascertain and let me know the number of pigeons, if any which can be so obtained from the State and the particulars of their owners.

2. It is also desired that the list should be amended annually and any

corrections necessary may be intimated to me by the 15th of September every year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

(Sd.)

Lieut Colonel

Agent to the Governor General

Secret

To

The Division Peishkar,

Trivandrum.

ROC. No. 9294/35/A1. dated 10 January, 1936

Sir,

In forwarding herewith copy of Secret letter No. 96/35 dated the 27th December 1935 from the A. G. G., Madras States, regarding the provision in peace of Pigeon lofts required on mobilization. I have the honour to request that you will be so good as to forward to Government for transmission to the A. G. G., a list of showing the number of pigeons described therein, which can be obtained from your Division and the particulars of their owners.

I have etc.,

For

Similarly to

1. The Division Peishkar, Quilon,
2. The Division Peishkar, Kottayam, and
3. The Commissioner, Devicolam.

Secret

To

The Division Peishkar,
Trivandrum.

ROC. No. 9234/35/Gl. dated 1st February 1936.

Sir,

I have the honour to invite your attention to this office letter ROC No. 9234/35/Genl. dated the 10th January 1936 re-provision in peace of pigeon lofts required on mobilization, and to request that you will be so good as to favour Government with your reply at a very early date.

I have etc.
For C. S.

Similarly to the other Division Peishkar and the Commissioner, Devicolam.

Secret and Urgent

R.O.C. No. 1849/111

Division Cutcherry,
Trivandrum,
3rd February, 1936.

From

The Division Peishkar
Trivandrum.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Trivandrum.

Sir

With reference to your letter R.O.C. No. 9294/35/Genl. dated 10-1-1936 re-provision in peace of pigeon lofts required on mobilization, I have the honour to inform you that the Tahsildars of Kalkulam, Vilavancode and Chirayinkil report that there are no such pigeons available in those Taluks. The other Tahsildars have not submitted their reports though they have been reminded of the same. I am issuing urgent orders to submit their reports without delay. I shall address the Government again as soon as their reports are received.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant
(Sd.)
For *Division Peishkar.*

Immediate and Secret
C.No.6230/11

Office of the Division,
Peishkar, Quilon.
21-6-

From

The Division Peishkar
Quilon.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

With reference to your letter R.O.C. No. 9294 of 1935/Genl. dated 10th January 1936 re: provision in peace of pigeon lofts required on mobilization. I have the honour to inform you that the Tahsildars of Karunagapally, Kunnathur, Ambalapuzha, Kottarakkara, Shenkottah and Thiruvellah have reported that pigeons of the 'carrier' and 'homer' types are not available in their respective taluks. I am calling for very urgent reports from the remaining Tahsildars and on hearing from them. I shall submit my further report in the matter.

I have-the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
(Sd.)
For Division· Peishkar.

C. No. 1257/11

Division- Cutcherry,
Kottayam,
24-6-11.

From

T.B. Cameron Esq.,
Division Peishkar,
Kottayam.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. ROC. 9234/35/Genl. dated 10-1-1936 and the reminder thereto dated 1-2-1936, re: provision in peace of Pigeon lofts required on mobilization, I have the honour to inform you that it is reported that there are such pigeons only in Vaikom Taluk in this Division. The report received from the Tahsildar, Vaikom, having found to be not exhaustive, I have urgently called for some additional information from him regarding those pigeons and I shall forward my final reply as soon as the Tahsildar's report is received.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
(Sd.)
For *Division Peishkar*

No. J. 1247

Dated, 13th February, 1936.

From

M. Ramachandra Rao Esquire, B.A.,
District Magistrate,
Devicolam.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

With reference to your letter R.O.C. No. 9234/35/G1. dated 10-1-1936 re: the peace of pigeon lofts I have the honour to forward herewith a list showing the number of pigeons kept in this Division with the particulars of their owners. The Police Inspector is enquiring as to how many of them may be made available. I shall address you again on receipt of his report.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
(Sd.)
District Magistrate

List showing the number of pigeons (trained birds of the "carrier" and "Homer" types) kept in Devicolam Division

Name of owner		*No. of pigeons*
Mr.C.H. John, Kadaloor, Estate, Munnar	..	10
Mr. S.S.I.R. Calver, Sergeant Volunteer Corps., S.P.M.R. Munnar	..	26
Mr. J.M.B. Slayter, Assistant Manager, Arivikad Estate, Mattupatti P.O.	..	2
Total	..	38

Devicolam,

-2-1936.

(Sd.)

District Magistrate.

No. J. 1285 Dated, 14th February, 1936.

From

Ramachandra Rao Esquire, B.A.,
District Magistrate,
Devicolam.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

In continuation of my report No. 1247 dated 13-2-1936 (Huzur File R.O.C. 9234/35) re: the provision in peace of pigeon lofts I have the honour to report that Messrs. S.S.I.R. Calver and C.H. John will be able to spare 20 and 10 pigeons respectively and the 2 pigeons of Mr. Slayter are not available as they were killed during a practice flight.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
(Sd.)
District Magistrate

To

The A.G.G.,
Madras States.

R.O.C. No. 9234/35/Gl. dated 29th February 1936.

Sir,

With reference to your secret letter No. 96/35 dated the 27th December 1935 regarding the provision in peace of pigeon lofts required on mobilisation, I have the honour to inform you that from the reports received from the local officers on the matter, it is seen that trained birds of the "Carrier" and "Homer" types are available-only in the Devicolam Division. Copies of the Reports received from the District Magistrate, Devicolam and of the statement

forwarded by him are enclosed. The District Magistrate has since intimated that Messrs. S.S.I.R. Calver' and C.H. John will be able to spare 20 and 10 pigeons respectively and that the two pigeons of Mr. Sleyter mentioned therein are not available as they were killed during a practice flight.

I have etc.
(Sd.)
Diwan.

To

Palace.

R.O.C 9234/35/GI. dated 27th February 1936.

My dear Sir,

I enclose for submission to His Highness the Maharaja secret letter No. 96/35 dated the 27th December 1935, from the A.G.G. Madras States requesting to be informed of the number of pigeons of the "Carrier" and "Homer" types available in the State which may be obtained from civil sources on mobilization. Enquiries were made through the Division Peishkars and the Commissioner, Devicolum, as to whether such birds were - available in the State and from the replies received it is seen that the birds are found only in the Devicolum Division (vide letters No. of 1247 dated the 13th February and No. 1285 dated 14th February 1936 from the District Magistrate enclosed) I have therefore in anticipation of sanction informed the A.G.G. as per copy of letter enclosed, that 30 birds of the two types described are obtainable from the State. I request that H.H. may be pleased to approve of the action taken by me in the matter.

I am, etc.,
(Sd.)
Diwan

To

A. Nallaperumal Pillai, Esqu:
Sarvadhikariakar,
Palace

No. 744

Palace,
Trivandrum,
17th March 1936.

My dear Sir,

With reference to your D. O. R. O. C. No. 9234/35/Genl. dated the 27th February 1936, regarding the number of pigeons of the Carrier and homer type available in the State, which may be obtained from civil sources on mobilization, I beg inform you that His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to approve your action in having in anticipation of sanction informed the Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States, as per copy enclosed herewith that 30 birds of the two types described are obtainable from the State.

The enclosures to your D. O. under reference are herewith returned.

I am, My dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,
(Sd/-)

Khan Bhadur,

Nawah Sir Muhammed Habibullah. Sahib Bahadur,
K. C. S. I., K. C. I. E. Kt. LLD.

Diwan of Travancore.

108. ELECTRIC TROLLEY SERVICE IN TRAVANCORE

Now that the Government is thinking of introducing trolley bus service in the three cities of the State to ease the transport problem it may be of interest to recall that the Travancore Government as early as 1936 had countenanced a proposal to connect Munnar with Cochin harbour by electric trolley service. The scheme did not of course fructify. but nonetheless as the proposal of the Travancore Electrical Engineer on the subject has come topical value now, it is being reproduced below.

PROPOSAL FOR AN ELECTRIC TROLLEY BUS TRANSPORT BETWEEN MUNNAR AND THE COCHIN HARBOUR

Ref:-My letter No. 196 Rutways dated 14-4-1936.

1. Government may be aware that there is an application from Messrs. Rutways Ltd., Trichinopoly for a concession to construct a Rutway in North Travancore to connect Anamalai and the Cochin Harbour. In the event of the proposal going through it is to be considered whether similar facilities should not be provided for diverting all the traffic from the High Ranges towards Cochin. The obvious way will be perhaps to run an independent transport system from Munnar right up to Cochin and feed this system somewhere between Neriamangalam and Kothamangalam, by the proposed Rutway from Anamalai. I have discussed this matter of diverting the High Range traffic to Cochin, with the Chief Engineer and General Manager of Messrs, Kannan Devan Hills Produce Co. and from figures supplied by them I find that there may be approximately 8, 550 tons going down and 13450 tons coming up making a total of 22,000 tons per annum. The Kannan Dewan Hills Produce Co. have given me an assurance that if a satisfactory system of transport is introduced by a responsible organisation they are willing to divert all their traffic towards Cochin and it is understood that they are prepared to pay an average rate of Rs. 25 per tonne for their transport from Munnar to Cochin and vice versa. This means, roughly speaking, a revenue of 51 lakhs of rupees per annum from the High Ranges in Travancore. This may be added another ½ a lakh of rupees per annum which represents roughly, on a conservative

basis, the volume of passenger traffic that could be handled in the event of a satisfactory transport system being introduced. We may therefore estimate that there will be a guaranteed revenue of 6 lakhs of rupees per annum by this transport.

2. My proposal is to run an electric trolley bus from Munnar up to Cochin a distance of approximately 80 miles and I have roughly worked out the estimate for the electrical equipment including 22 vehicles for dealing with the goods traffic besides four passenger vehicles. The total expenditure on these items including provision of Rs. 1½ lakbs for contingent expenses will be Rs. 23 lakhs and if we set apart another 7 lakhs of rupees for the improvement of road (for example widening curves, far macadamising etc.,) the total expenditure will be Rs. 30 lakhs. The annual running charges will be as follows:

Operating Expenses	Rs. 2 lakhs
Interest charges at 5 %	Rs. 1½ lakhs
Depreciation and sinking fund	Rs. 2½ lakhs

and thus making a total of 6 lakhs of rupees and this will be fully covered by the gross revenue. The proposition in my opinion is therefore worth a detailed investigation.

3. The advantage of diverting the traffic towards Cochin have been fully discussed in my letter referred to above, and if the trolley system of electric transport can be successfully installed in this section it is only a question of time before we could adopt the same system in all crowded and congested areas in other parts of Travancore especially between Trivandrum and Nagercoil where at present nearly 60 or 70 buses are running up and down each day. The expenditure on this work is much cheaper than on Railways. In view of the fact that whole of Travancore especially parts north of Trivandrum are connect with an excellent net work of canals and waterways all the goods traffic will naturally be handled by water which will be much cheaper than Railways so that in a programme of Railway extension one can only depend on passenger traffic to make it pay. But even here buses are competing with railways to the disadvantages of the latter and even where railway lines are inservice for instance between Quilon and Trivandrum buses are still holding their own. This is naturally to be expected because Travancore unlike other

parts of India does not possess will defined units of villages and all the population is spread over from one corner of the State to the other, and buses on account of their greater flexibility and convenience will always appeal to the public in preference to the Railways where the destinations are more or less tied down by the respective stations.

(Sd.)

K. P. P. MENON,

Electrical Engineer.

8-6-1936

109. CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING THE ROYAL PREROGATIVE OF MERCY ON CONVICTS

Royal prerogative of mercy on convicts was prevalent during the period of monarchy in Travancore. The Travancore Rajas granted ammesty on the occasion of their birthdays. In this document the release of the four convicts at 6 a.m. on the 25th September 1937 from Central Jail, Trivandrum is ordered.

Even now in democratic times the release of the convicts are occasionally ordered by the Governments.

Strictly Confidential

No. 323/37/C.S.

Dear Mr. Pothan,

It is under contemplation to release a few deserving prisoners on the ensuing birthday of His Highness the Maharaja.

Please send me the names of 3 or 4 prisoners who in your opinion are worthy of receiving their royal favour.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.)
18-9-1937.

Mr. Pothen Esq.,
Superintendent,
Central Prison

Trivandrum,
23rd September, 1937 .

My Dear Sir,

With reference to your confidential D.O. dated 19th September 1937 I beg to submit a statement of three prisoners who in my opinion are worthy of receiving Royal favour on the ensuing birthday of His Highness the Maharaja.

They have served out longer terms and earned remission and gratuity to a larger extent. They were all along very well conducted.

I am, My Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Sd.)

To

Rao Bahadur Rajyaseva niratha.
N. Kunjan Pillai Esq., M.A., B.Sc., Ph.D.,
Chief Secretary to Government,
T rivandrum.

Convict Number	Name
9931	Krishnan Velayudhan
9928	Iyyappan Pillai Krishna Pillai
9783	Itty Chanty.

(Sd.)
Superintendent
Central Prison.
Confidential

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum,
24th September, 1937.

No. 331/37/C.S

From

The Chief Secretary to Government.

To

The Superintendent,
Central Prison,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

With reference to your D.O. dated the 23rd September 1937, I have the honour to inform you that His Highness the Maharaja has, in the exercise of the Royal Prerogative of mercy, been pleased to sanction the release of the four convicts mentioned at foot at 6 A.M. on the 25th September 1937 on the occasion of the birthday of Her Highness Princess Karthika Tirunal the unexpired portion of the sentence of each of them and the fine of Rs. 500 due from C. Kesavan being remitted. The reason for the clemency should be explained to the prisoners' at the time of release.

This letter should remain in your personal custody and its contents should not be made known to anyone before the time of release of the prisoners.

I have etc.,

(Sd.)

24-9-1937.

CS.to Government.

Prisoners to be releaved

Number	Name
1. 9931	Krishnan Velayudhan
2. 9783	Itty Chandy
3. 9928	Iyyappan Pillai Krishna Pillai
4. 6551	C. Kesavan

GOVERNMENT OF TRAVANCORE

C:71 68/Judl./,
30-9-07.

Palace Form No.3/
G.P.T. 2817, 4000, 20-10-1112.
Palace: Trivandrum,
27th September, 1937.

No. 3205

My Dear Sir,

With reference to your D.O.R.O.C. No.6993 of 37/Judicial dated the 25th September 1937, I beg to inform you that His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to sanction your proposal that convicts Nos.9931, Krishnan Velayudhan, 9928 Iyyappan Pillai Krishna Pillai and 9783 Itty Chandy as well as Convict No. 6551 C. Kesavan may be released in exercise of the Royal Prerogative of mercy at 6 A.M. on the 25th September 1937 on the occasion of the birthday of Her Highness Princess Karthika Thirunal, the unexpired portions of sentence of each of them and the fine of Rs. 500 due from C. Kesavan being remitted.

His Highness has also been pleased to ratify your action in having in anticipation of His Highness' sanction ordered the release of the above four convicts at the time and date specified above.

It is noted that the Superintendent, Central Prison, was also directed to explain to the prisoners at the time of their release the reason for the clemancy shown to them.

I am, My Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,

(Sd.)

N. KRISHNA MOORTHY.

Sachivathama Sir C.P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K.C.I.E., Diwan of Travancore

110. PETITION FROM VIZHINJAM INHABITANTS TO BEGIN A FISHERY SCHOOL IN VIZHINJAM

Vizhinjam was a place of historical and commercial importance even from ancient days. Attempts are now being made to develop Vizhinjam as a modern fishing harbour.

The Vizhinjam inhabitants submitted a petition on 25-4-1937 to the then Diwan of Travancore to start a fishery school in Vizhinjam. The true copies of correspondence are given below.

C.3331/37/Devpt.4-5-37.

To

His Excellency,
The Diwan of Travancore,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

We the under signed inhabitants of the Village of Vizhinjam beg to submit the following for the kind consideration and favourable disposal.

I. Vizhinjam is one of the most important fishing centres in South Travancore and has a large population of fishermen consisting of Christians and Muhamadans.

2. We need not say that the methods adopted for fishing and curing fish are primitive and as a result; we are not able to get the best out of the industry, which at present affords us only a precarious livelihood.

3. A fish curing yard is being run here by the Department of Fisheries but this is quite insufficient for training our children in uptodate methods of fishing, curing fish and utilising the bye-products of fish.

4-. A Fishery School here, after the model of that established in Karunagappally is a great desideratum and such a school will be of use not only to us but to the neighbouring fishing villages. The necessity is all the more great because of five fishing schools now conducted in the State, four are in

the north and one in the centre, none being in the south. We pray that our Vernacular middle school may be used for the purpose if the department has no objection. Fisheries may be taught in the School as one of the special subjects.

5. We would also respectfully point out the necessity of teaching fisheries as a subject in the polytechnical institute that is proposed to be started. This would be only in the fitness of things considering the comparatively large line and rich fisheries of Travancore.

We need not dwell at length before you of the great potentialities that Travancore affords for fishing industry. You have realised the necessity of educating fishermen and the possibilities of improving the fishing industry. We recollect with gratitude and hope your broadcast speech at Bombay where you stated that "a well directed extension of the existing programme for the education of fishermen and the spread of co-operation can easily lead them to the rapid extension of the industry."

So we pray that Government may be pleased to start a fishery school immediately in Vizhinjam and have fisheries as a branch of knowledge and training in the polytechnical school to be started.

We beg to remain,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

Fr. XAVIER J. PRESENTATION

Parish Priest,

Vizhinjam,.

Vizhinjam,

23-4-1937.

P. Alexander (Sd.)

K. Joseph Castru (Sd.)

M. Arogyam Roach (Sd.)

V.J. Elias Rebein (Sd.)

A.J. Presentation (Sd.)

J. Sebastian D' Castrue (Sd.)

DDis No. 1803/37 Dated, 3rd July, 1937.

The Director of Agriculture & Fisheries,
Travancore.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 523/128/112, dated the 12th June 1937, regarding a petition from the inhabitants of Vizhinjam for the establishment of a fishery School in their place, I have the honour to inform you that the matter has to be considered in conjunction with the University scheme as also a fish canning and refrigerating scheme that is now being considered by the Travancore Sugars and Chemicals Co. The present proposal may therefore lie over.

I have & c., For
Chief Secretary.

Copy to the Education Section for information and necessary action.

Assistant Secretary.

Copy to the file reg: Travancore Sugars and Chemicals.

Assistant Secretary

111. RIGOROUS IMPRISOMENT TO A.K.G.

Sri. A. K. Gopalan was sentenced to undergo R.I. for six months and also to pay a fine of Rs. 1,000 by the Division 1st Class Magistrate, Perumbavoor in October1938 for leading the famous Malabar Jatha to Travancore which was declared unlawful. This took place on 20th Kanni, 1114· (1933). Following is the judgement in this case.

In the Court of the Division 1st Class Magistrate, Penumbavoor.

Present :

M.R.Ry. P.S. Velayudhan, Avl., B.A.,

Division 1st Class Magistrate

Thursday, the 20th Kanni 1114

6th,October 1938

Calendar Case No.8 of 1114

Complaint : M. Chacko, Inspector of Police

Accused : A.K. Gopalan and 31 others (nameomitted).

JUDGEMENT

Accused are charged by the Inspector of Police, Alwaye Sec. 4Cl i of Reg. I of 114 and under Sec 181 T.P.C.

2. The charge against the accused is the following:- Under the leadership of the 1st accused, A.K. Gopalan, a Malabar person, 1st accused who were thirty two in number, formed themselves into a body which they called the Malabar Jatha and started from Malabar to Travancore with a view to assist the operations of the unlawful associations known by the name "THE TRAVANCORE STATE CONGRESS", which has been declared by Government as an unlawful Association in Notification R.O.C. No.6798/Jdl. dated 25th August 1938. Under Section 127 Cr.P.C. the District Magistrate Kottayam, promulgated an order prohibiting the entry of this body into Kottayam District, in Travancore State. At 2.45 p.m. on 2-2-114, this body arrived Alwaye Ry. Station and began to enter into this State. The prohibitory order is said to have been served on them, but disobeying that order, this body effected their entrance through the eastern Railway gate into the Jurisdiction of the Alwaye Police Inspector in Kottayam District with revolutionary outcries such as "STATE CONGRESS KIJAI", "INQUILAB SINDHABAD ETC." and began to incite the large crowd of people who

had assembled there as sight seers, requesting them to help the working of the unlawful association called "THE TRAVANCORE STATE CONGRESS". By means of their outcries and entreaties, they roared the people who had assembled there in order to cause annoyance, obstruction etc., to the persons lawfully employed there to prevent them from entering into this State. This body effected their riotous entrance into the jurisdiction of the Alwaye I.P. within Kottayam District who therefore arrested the whole body between 2.45 P. M. and 8 P. M. on 2-2-114. The acts of the accused constituted offences under Sec 4 Cl i of Reg I of 114 and See 18 1 (i) T.P.C.

3. The Police completed the investigation and submitted the charge sheet.

4. On behalf of the prosecution one witness has been examined and Exts A & B have been filed.

5. As regards the 1st Count, that is, for offence under Sec 4 Cl i of Reg.· 114, all the accused plead guilty. But in regard to the offence under Sec 181 T.P.C., the 1st accused keenly contests. He says that Ext. A prohibitory order was not duly served on them.

6. Al has cross-examined Peecy in regard to this point, that is, in regard to the point of non-service of Ext. A on them. Peecy's evidence is not dear In respect of this point. It further shows that due to the confusion caused by the accused by running in all directions, the Police could not duly serve the order on the accused. As the evidence respecting this count is not beyond doubt, I am inclined to give the benefit of doubt to the accused.

7. The prosecution withdrawn the charge against accused Nos. 2 to **17,** 19 to 25 and 27 to 30 & 32 and they will therefore stand acquitted under sec. 222 Cr. P.C.

8. I find accused Nos. I, 18, 26 and 31 guilty under Sec. 4 Cl.i of Reg.

I of 114 and sentenced them each to undergo R.I for six months and to pay a fine of Rs. one thousand and in default to undergo R.I. for a month and a half more.

9. Delcared in open Court, at Permupavoor, this the 20th day of Kanny 1114.

(Sd.)

P. S. VELAYUDHAN,

Dn. 1st Class Magistrate

112. VATTAKOTTA

This is an old Fort situated near Cape Comerin now in Tamilnadu but formerly in the erstwhile State of Travancore. It had considerable strategic importance, especially during the Dutch period (17th Century).

The following correspondence relates to the promulgation of a notification declaring it as a protected monument.

PRESERVATION OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS

Archaeological Department,
Trivandrum,
4th October, 1940.

No. 384/40.

From

The Director of Archaeology, Travancore,
Trivandrum.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Trivandrum.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that marks of unwarranted writing and defacement are noticed in many places inside the walls of the Vattakotta Fort near Cape Comerin in the Agasteeswaram Taluk and that steps have therefore to be taken with a view to protecting the same from injury and molestation at the hands of tourists and visitors who come in large numbers every year to see the monument. I request, therefore, that Government be pleased to declare this fort as a protected monument under section (iii) of Act I of 1112 and to arrange for a notification being put up in a conspicuous place near the monument with an intimation that anyone who tampers with it shall be subject to punishment under the rules in force.

I have honour to be,
Sir,
Yours most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
R. VASUDEVA PODUVAL,
Director of Archaeology.

C.1415/16/Mis. *Dated,* 15/11/40

From

The Division Peishcar,
Trivandrum.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir,

With reference to your docket R. O. C. No. 4478/40/Edn. dated, the 14th October 1940, regarding Vattakotta near Cape Comerin, I have the honour to forward herewith, copy of report No. 3391 dated 21-3-1116, from the Tahsildar, Agasteeswaram, on the subject. As may be seen therefrom this Fort was erected as per the commands of Raja Marthanda Varma and was intended as a defence wall to the Nanjinad, against the incursions of pirates. The fort stands on 3 acres and 48 cents of land in S. No. 4376/A of Kanniakumari pakuthy. It is reported to have been completed during the 9th century M. E. Inside the fort, there is open space of 270ft. square composed of four buildings 50' oby 9' probably used as barracks, and another erection of the same dimensions, probably used as a magazine. The fort is now in the charge of the P. W. D.

The Tahsildar reports that the frequent visitors to the place tamper with the walls and disfigure them with fresh inscriptions, and that a notice has been put up as a temporary measure prohibiting such writings. As a permanent measure against such unauthorised actions, he recommends that the fort may be taken

under protection as per the Ancient Monuments Act, I of 1112. I agree with the Tahsildar. The necessary draft declaration under Section 3(1) of the Act, is enclosed.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,.
(Sd.)
Division Pcischar.

No. 3391-121-3-1116, from the Tahsildar, Agasthiswaram to the Division Peischar, Trivandrum.

With reference to your Order C. No. 1415/16/Mis. dated 30-2-1116, regarding Vattakotta Fort near Cape Comerin in Agasthiswaram Taluk. I have the honour to report as follows:-

Vattakotta is a granite fort erected for the defence against the inwards of pirates. It forms the terminal of a line of ramparts known as the South Travanecore lines which commence from Chavari-Kottalam with Bastions at intervals of 165 yards. These lines were erected by command of Raja Marthanda Varma to serve as a defensive wall surrounding the southern tract of Travancore known as Nanjinad. It would appear that the work was completed during the first half of the 9th Century M.E. The area of the ground occupied by the fort is about 171800 Sq. feet. But the available ground inside the fort a square each side of which measures 270 feet. Within this, enclosure there are four buildings each 50' 9' evidently used a barrack and of the same dimensions probably used as a magazine. PWD. is in charge of the fort now.

I inspected the site and writings like these noted at foot are found in certain places. It is necessary to prevent such unauthoriscd writings etc., which are calculated to mislead students archaeology at least in the future. There is at present a notice put up in a plank as follows.

"കോട്ട ചുവർകളിൽ യാതൊന്നും എഴുതാൻ പാടില്ല"

In view of the particulars stated above it is necessary to protect this fort and prevent unauthorised tampering. The necessary draft declaration is herewith submitted.

C.K.

D. R.

M. D. D.

A. S. R.

Botany

W. S. C.

പഴനിചാമി

(Sd.)
Sheristadar

R. O. C. No. 4478 of 40/Edn.

NOTIFICATION

Under Section 3(i) of the Travancore Ancient Monuments Preservation Act I of 11 12, it is hereby declared that the fort known as Vattakotta (വട്ടക്കോട്ട) standing on 3 Acres 48 cents of land in survey number 4376 A of the Kaniakumari Pakuthy, Agasthiswaram taluk, is to be a protected monument within the meaning of the said Act with a view to ensuring its preservation.

Objections, if any, to the issue of this Notification, should be preferred to the undersigned within one month from the date of its publication. Objection received after the expiry of the said period of one month will not be taken into consideration.

(Sd.)
M. K. NEELAKANTA AIYER
Chief Secretary to Government

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum.
20th December, 1940

R. O. C. No. 4478/40/Edn. 20th December, 1940.

To

The Superintendent,
Government Press.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith notification R. O. C. No. 4478/40 Edn. dated 20-12-1940 with its Malayalam and Tamil translations regarding the preservation of Vattakotta near Cape Comerin and to request that you will be so good as to arrange for the same being published in the next issue of the Gazette. Please also arrange for half a dozen copies of the notification (with its Malayalam and Tamil translations) being sent to the Division Peishcar, Trivandrum .

I have etc.
For C. S.

Copy to the D. P. Trivandrum with reference to his letter No. C. 1415/16 Mis. dated 15-11-1940. He is informed that a copy of the notification shall be fixed up in a conspicuous place on or near the monument together with an intimation that any objections to the issue of the notification received by Government within one month from the date when it is so fixed up will be taken into consideration [vide Section 3 (2) of Act 1 of 1112].

For C. *S.*

Copy with copy of notification to Director of Archaeology for information with reference to his letter No. 884/40 dated 4-10-1940.

For *C.S*

NOTIFICATION

Whereas a notification under Section 3(I)of the Travancore Ancient Monuments Preservation Act 1 of 1112 was published in the Government Gazette under date the 20th December, 1940, declaring that the Fort known as Vattakotta (വട്ടക്കോട്ട) standing on 3 acres and 48 cents of land in survey No. 4376 A of the Kanniakumari Pakuthy, Agasthiswaram taluk, is to be a protected monument within the meaning of the said Act, and whereas no objection to the issue of the said notification was received within one month from the date when it was fixed up in a conpicuous place on the monument, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja are hereby pleased to declare under Section 3 (3) of the said Act, that the above said notification dated the 20th December 1940 declaring the said fort to be a protected monument is confirmed.

Chief Secretay to Government

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum,
dated 1941/1117

NOTIFICATLON

L. Dis No. 44-/42/Edn.

Under Section 3(3) of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act 1 of 1112, it is hereby notified that the Government notification R.O.C. No. 4478/40/Edn. dated the 20th December 1940 published at page 638, Part I of the Gazette dated 24th December 1940, regarding the preservation of the Vattakotta near Cape Comerin standing on 3 acres and 48 cents of land in survey number 4376 of the Kanniakumari pakuthy, Agasteeswaram taluk is hereby confirmed as no objections was received within the prescribed time.

(Sd.)
6-I-42
Ag. *Chief Secretary to Government*

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum, 8th January 1942.

113. STEPS FOR THE PRESER VATION OF LITHIC INSCRIPTIONS IN THE KANDIYUR TEMPLE

According to the District Gazetteer Alleppey, the Kandiyur temple was, established in 823 A.D. and that the Kandiyur temple is one of the oldest temples of Kerala of which there is inscriptional evidence,

For the preservation of certain lithic inscriptions in the Kandiyur temple in the Mavelikara group, the Director of Archaeology had taken necessary steps in 1940. The true copy of the correspondence is given below.

Archaeological Department,
Trivandrum, 3rd October 1940

From

The Director of Archaeology,
Travancore, Trivandrum.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Trivandrum.

Subject:_ Lithic inscription of Kollam year 123 at Kandiyur temple at Mavelikara.

I have the honour to report that information has been received that the lithic inscription of the Kollam year 123 found in the Kandiyur temple at Mavelikara is lying neglected in one corner of the outer courtyard of the temple and is exposed to wind and rain. It is a very valuable document which is worthy of conservation. The writing on the stone is still in a good state of preservation, and continued exposure of the same to the elements of nature will result in its disintegration. I request, therefore, that sanction be kindly accorded to the removal of the stone under reference for conservation and exhibition in the Museum of antiquities temporarily located at Padmanabhapuram.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
Director of Archaeology.

No. 5946/40

Devaswom Department,
Dated: 27-3-1941.

From

The Devaswom Commissioner.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir,

With reference to Government letter R.O.C. No. 4468/40/Edn. dated 24th December 1940 regarding the preservation of the lithic inscriptions in the Kandiyur temple, I have the honour to state that the Assistant Commissioner of Devaswoms, Ambalapuzha has since reported that the lithic inscriptions in question can be preserved by fitting in a small canopy constructed on the Althara on the south side of the temple and that the cost of construction of the canopy will be within the power of sanction of the Superintendent. I am sanctioning the proposal of the Assistant Commissioner. He is also being asked to depute one of the Devaswom menials to keep watch over the inscriptions so as to prevent their spoilation.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
Devaswom Commissioner.

114. DECLARATION OF THE ANCIENT CHAPELS AND TOMBS WITHIN THE UDAYAGIRI FORT AS PROTECTED MONUMENTS

"The Udayagiri Fort built during the reign of King Marthanda Varma (1729 to 1758)-contains a Chapel and some tombs including that of Eustachius D' Lannoy, a Dutch Commandeer, who served the Travancore Army". In these letters some of the dates are given in the Malayalam Era.

Archaeological Department
Trivandrum, 4th October 1940

From

The Director of Archaeology,
Travancore, Trivandrum.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Trivandrum.

Sir.

I have the honour to request that Government be pleased to declare the ancient chapel and tombs within the Udayagiri Fort as protected monuments under Section (iii) of Act I of 1112 with a view to saving them from imperilment, molestation or defacement at the hands of tourists and visitors who come in large numbers to see them.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
R. VASUDEVA PODUVAL,
Director Archaeology.

No. C.1411/116/Mis.

Date: 3-2-1941.

From

The Division Peishcar, Trivandrum.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir,

With reference to your docket R.O.C. No. 4476/40/Edn. dated the 17th October, 1940, regarding the proposal of the Director of Archaeology, for preservation of the ancient chapel and tombs within the Udayagiri Fort, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of report No. 8188, dated 11-6-1116, form the Tahsildar, Kalkulam, on the subject. It may be seen therefrom that the chapel and the tombs referred to are situated on 53 cents and 400 sq. links of Pandaravagai land in Sy. No. 3489/A of the Kalkulam pakuthy patta for which stands in the name 'ശ്രീപണ്ടാരകാര്യം ചെയ്വാർകൾ' The monuments are reported to be under the control and maintenance of the P.W.D. though it is not known how they came to be so. It is reported that there are eight tombs within the Fort, prominent among them being those of Captain D' Lannoy, for some time the Commander-in-Chief of the Travancore Army, his wife and son. The Tahsildar reports that the relics are really worthy of preservation. The necessary draft declaration under Section 3(1) of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act I of 1112 is enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.)

Division Peishcar.

R.O.C. No. 4476/40/Edn. Dated: 18th February 1941

To

The Superintendent,
Government Press.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith notification R.O.C. No. 4436/40/ Edn. dated 18-2-1941 with its Malayalam and Tamil translations regarding the preservation of the ancient chapel and tombs within the Udayagiri Fort and to request that you will be so good as to arrange for the same being published in the next issue of the Gazette. Please also arrange for half a dozen copies of the notification (with its Malayalam and Tamil translations) being sent to the Division Peishcar, Trivandrum.

I have etc.,
For *Chief Secretary.*

Copy to the Division Peishcar, Trivandrum with reference to his letter No. C. 1411/1116/Ms. dated 3-2-1941. He is informed that a copy of the notification shall be fixed up in a conspicuous place, on or near the monument together with an intimation that any objections to the issue of the notification received by Government within one month from the date when it is so fixed up will be taken into consideration [vide Section 3 (2) of Act I of 1112].

For *Chief Secretary*

Copy with copy of notification forwarded to the Director of Archaeology for information with reference to his letter No. 883/40 dated 4-10-1940.

For *Chief Secretary.*

115. PALACES-LIST OF PALACES IN THE STATE

In the extreme Travancore the Maharajas lived in Palaces in Trivandrum, but there were also several palaces, (most of them smaller ones) in different parts of the State to provide accommodation to the Maharaja, and other members of the royal family during their visits to those places. A list of such palaces prepared by the Chief Engineer in 1943 is reproduced below. This may be of interest for historical information and for administrative purposes.

Palaces of South Travancore are now in Tamilnadu, Kanyakumari District.

The Padmanabhapuram Palace rebuilt by Maharaja Marthanda Varma in 919 M.E. (1744 A.D.) is a glory of Kerala Architecture.

The most important palaces are in Trivandrum. The Maharajas from Marthanda Varma onwards had their royal residences in the palaces within the Fort. Maharaja Sri Chitra Tirunal has his residence in Kawadiyar Palace, a beautiful specimen of Kerala Architecture.

Sub :-Palaces-List of Palaces in the State.

Chief Engineers' Office,
Trivandrum.

From

The Chief Engineer,
Roads, Irrigation & Miscellaneous.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government.

Sub :-List of Palaces in the State.

Ref:- *G.O.* ROC. No. 987/43/Rev. dated 29-11-1943.

Sir,

With reference to the above, I have the honour to forward herewith a statement containing the information required therein as far as the same could be gathered from the details available in this office in view of the urgency. The Division Officers, Revenue Department and Devaswom Department are being addressed to verify the list so far as it relates to them.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.)
Chief Engineer,
1-12-1943.

TALUK-WAR LIST OF PALACES IN THE STATE

S.No.	Name of Palace	Taluk	Major Minor and situation	Name of Department that maintains with that of controlling officer of each
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
I.	Ramavarmapuram Palace, Nagercoil	Agasteeswaram		P.W.D. Division officer, Nagarcoil
2.	Puthan Bungalow at Nagercoil	do.		do.
3.	Krishnancoil Palace	do.	No information is available in this office.	do.
4.	Thirupathisarom Palace and Royal Stables	Thovala		do
5.	Palace at Cape including Palace Garden	Agasteeswaram		do
6.	Muthukuzhi Palace	Thovala		do
7.	Thiruvattar Palace	Kalkulam		do
8.	Attingal Palace	Chirayinkil		P.W.D. Division Officer Trivandrum
9.	Katinamkulam Kottaram	Trivandrum		do
10.	Kazhakootam Kottaram and tank	do.		do
II.	Chilakoor Palace) Varkalai	Chirayinkil	do.	
12.	Sarkara Palace	do.		do.
13.	Manomohanavilasom Palace at Attingal	do.		do.
14.	Srimulavilasom Palace and Western Palace at Varkalai	do.		do.
15.	Oolloor Palace	Trivandrum		P.W.D. Division Officer Trivandrum
16.	Iron Villa inside the Fort (Maintenance of railings & C. around the Statue of H.H. The Maharaja).	do.		
17.	Thiruvallam Palace	Trivandrum		do
18.	Setalmond Palace	do.		do.
19.	Kaudiyar Palace	do.		do.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
20.	Nalukettu and attached buildings, Ponmudi Kottaram		Nedumangad	do.
21.	Thevally Palace, Quilon	Quilon		P.W.D. Division Officer Quilon
22.	Puthukulangara Palace, Quilon		do.	do.
23.	Paravoor Palace, Quilon		do.	do.
24.	Asramam Palace, Quilon		do.	do.
25.	Chavara Palace		Karunagapally	do.
26.	Panmana Palace		do.	do.
27.	Kandiyoor Palace	Mavelikara		do.
28.	Chenganoor Palace		Thiruvalla	do.
29.	Mannar Koikal Palace		do.	do.
30.	Courtallam Palace		Tenkasi	do.
31.	Shenkottah Palace		Shenkotta	do.
32.	Punalur Palace		Pathanapuram	do.
33.	Kottarakara Palace	Kottarakara		P.W.D. Division Officer Quilon
34.	Vettikkavala Palace		do.	do.
35.	Peermade Palace including Lake View, Rope Way & Mapleton Buildings & C		Peermade	P.W.D. Division Officer Kottayam
36.	Vayaskarakunnu Kottaram		Kottayam	do.
37.	Palakkal Kottaram, Kaduthuruthy		Vaikom	do.
38.	Arukutty Palace		Shertallai	do.
39.	Alwaye Palace and its out-houses		Kunnathunad	P.W.D. Division Officer, Alwaye.
40.	Devikulam Palace and its out-houses		Devikulam	do.
41.	Suchindram Kottaram		Agasteeswaram	Revenue Dept.
42.	Neyyattinkara Palace		Neyya ttinkara	do.
43.	Thazhathu Kottaram Varkalai		Chirayinkil	do.
44.	Thiruvallam Bungalow, Quilon		Quilon	do.
45.	Thovala Palace, Thovala		Thovala	do.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
46.	Padmanabhapuram Palace and Stables	Kalklllam		P.W.D. Division Officer Alwaye.
47.	Eranial Palace	Kalkulam		do.
48.	Kuzhithura Palace & Stables	Vilavancode		do.
49.	Karumbali Koikkal Palace	Karthiga pally		Revenue Dept. Officers.
50.	Haripad Valia Kottaram	do.		do.
51.	Krishnapuram Palace	Karunagapally		do.
52.	Ambalapuzha Palace	Ambalapuzha		do .
53.	Alleppey Palace and out-houses	do.		do.
54.	Shertallai Palace	Shertallai		do.
55.	Mampalli Kottaram and out-houses	Vaikom		do.
56.	Parur Kochu Kottaram	Parur		do.
57.	Cheche Kottaram, Suchindram	Agasteeswaram		Devaswom Dept.
58.	Tripparappu Kottaram	Kalkulam		do.
59.	Trippappoor Palace	Trivandrum		do.
60.	Mallanthampuran Koikkal	Nedumangad		do .
61.	Ariankavoo Kottararn	Shenkotta		do.
62.	Parassala Kottaram	Neyyattinkara		do.

(Sd.)

Chief Engineer, 1-12-1943.

List of Palaces under the control of the Land Revenue Department

TRIVANDRUM DIVISION

1. Thovala Palace
2. Suchindram Palace
3. Padmanabhapuram Palace
4. Eraniel Palace
5. Thiruvattar Palace
6. Kuzhithura Palace
7. Neyyattinkara Palace
8. Koickal Bungalow (Chirayinkil)
9. Srimulavilasam Palace (Chirayinkil)

QUI LON DIVISION

1. Thirumullavaram Bungalow (Quilon)
2. Krishnapuram Palace
3. Haripad Palace
4. Karimpalikoikkal Palace (Karthigapally)
5. Alleppey Palace
6. Ambalapuzha Palace

KOTTAYAM DIVISION

I. Shertali Palace
2. Arukutty Palace
3. Mampally Palace (Vaikom)

List of Palaces under the control of the P.W.D.

ALWAYE DIVISION

1. Alwaye Palace
2. Devicolam Palace

KOTTAYAM DIVISION

I. Vayaskarakunnu Palace (Kottayam)
2. Palakkal Kottaram (Kaduthuruthy)
3. Kuttikanam Palace (Peermade)

QUILON DIVISION

1. Thevally Palace
2. Puthukulangara Palace (Quilon)

3. Cavara Palace
4. Asramom Palace
5. Paravoor Palace
6. Kandiyoor Palace
7. Panmana Palace
8. Chengannoor Palace
9. Shenkottah Palace
10. Punalur Palace
11. Kottarakara Palace
12. Vettikavala Palace

TRIVANDRUM DIVISION

1. Varkala Palace
2. Attingal Palace
3. Manomohanavilasom Palace (Attingal)
4. Chilakoor Palace (Warkala)
5. Western Palace (Warkala)
6. Sarkara Palace (Chirayinkil)
7. Kzhakuttam Palace
8. Kadinamkulam Palace
9. Oolloor Palace
10. Thiruvallom Palace

NAGERCOIL DIVISION

11. Cape Palace
12. Ramavarmapuram Palace (Nagercoil)
13. Puthen Bunglow (Nagercoil)
14. Krishnancoil Palace
15. Thirupathisaram Palace
16. Muthukuzhi Palace
17. Thiruvattar Palace

List of Palaces under the control of the Devaswom Department

I. Cheche Kottaram (Suchindram)
2. Parassala Palace
3. Koickal Palace-Vettakkorumakan (Valliachalai)
4. Koickal Kottaram (Nedumangad)
5. Easwaraseva Kottaram (Nedumangad)

6. Thrippappur Palace (Attipra)
7. Arienkavu Palace

Revenue Section

Palaces in the State and their control

The Palaces in the different parts of the State are under the control of either the Revenue or P.W. or Devaswom department. A list of the palaces under the control of each department is given above.

Maintenance: The palaces under the control of the Revenue and Devaswom departments are maintained by the Maramath department. Those under the control of the P.W. Department are maintained by the P.W.D.

There is an allotment each year sanctioned in the Land Revenue budget for the purchase of vessels, lighting charges and pay of menials etc.

Establishment: The staff of these institutions viz. Vicharippukars watchers etc are under the control of the Palace and they can be removed from their post or retired or new appointments filled up only with the sanction of the Palace.

The pay of the staff is however disbursed from the Revenue or other department, as the case may be, under whose immediate administrative control the staff is employed.

A proposal for the revision of their pay is pending consideration in the Financial Secretariat.

A sum of Rs. 9712 is provided in the budget for 1119 M.E. for meeting the expenditure on account of the pay of the staff in the palaces under the control of the Revenue Department.

General Section

With a view to fix the security to be deposited by the Vicharippukart#:-and Superintendents of the several Palaces insidc the State, Valuation lists of all the belongings such as furniture, vessels etc., were obtained as required by the Sarvadhikariakar, palace and forwarded to him-vide File Dis I 7843/GenI.

Subsequently in July 1943 the Sarvadhikariakar forwarded a list of Palaces showing the posts for which security has now been fixed and those for which enhanced security should be fixed in future. Accordingly the Division Peishkars, the Devaswom Commissioner and the Chief Engineer, Roads, Irrigation and Miscellaneous were asked to furnish the necessary information. The list so far

received have been sent to the Palace. Some more lists are still due. The file is put up.

Chief Engineer's Office,
Trivandrum,
4th December 1943

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry over the phone I write to say that it is a fact that I gave confidential instructions to my Office Superintendent last evening, that as Government have clearly defined the duties of the Chief Engineer, Workshops and War Industries and myself in their R. O. C. No. 10163/41/ P.W. dated 27-12-1941, papers relating to the Workshops and the 17 buildings, the names of which are in that letter, must be sent to the Chief Engineer, Workshops and War Industries and that papers relating to works under my control should not be sent to him without my knowledge. The immediate occasion for this is the reference made to me recently by Government regarding Vayaskarakunnu Palace at Kottayam. Mr. J. W. Chacko was inspecting this building and giving instructions to the Division Officer, Kottayam and letter has been addressing communications to the Chief Engineer, Workshops and War Industries though the building is not included in the list referred to. I have been ignorant of the correspondence regarding this building and its is to avoid this state of affairs that the above instructions were given. The Division Officers also seem to be on some difficulty in such matters. I would therefore request that orders may be passed on the reference made to Government on this subject by the Chief Engineer, Workshops & War Industries so as to avoid doubts in future.

Yours faithfully.

(Sd.)

To

Rajyaseva Pravina,
G. Parameswaran Pillai Avl.,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Trivandrum.

116. INSPIRING MESSAGES OF NETAJI

At the time of disbanding the Asad Hind Fauj, Netaji issued two inspiring Mcssages in August 1945, one to the Indians in India and abroad, and the other to the Officers and men of the Azard Hind Fauj.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY
By
SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE SUPREME COMMANDER: AZAD HIIND FAUJ

To

Officers and Men of the Azad Hind Fauj

Comrades,

In our struggle for the Independence of our Mother land, we have, now been over-whelmed by an undreamt of crisis. You may perhaps feel that you have failed in your mission to liberate India. But let me tell you that this failure is only of a temporary nature. No set-back and no defeat can undo your positive achievements of the past. Many of you have participated in the fight along the Indo-Burma frontier and Inside India and have gone through hardship and suffering of every sort. Many of your comrades have laid down their lives, on the battlefield and have become the immortal heroes of Azad Hind, This glorious sacrifice can never go in vain.

Comrades in this dark hour I call upon you to conduct yourselves with the discipline, dignity and strength befitting a truly Revolutionary Army. You have already given proofs of your valour and self sacrifice on the field. of battle. It is now your duty to demonstrate your undying optimism and unshakable will-power in the hour of temporary defeat. Knowing you, as I do, I have not the slightest doubt that even in this dire adversity you will hold your heads erect and face the future with un-ending hope and confidence.

Comrades, I feel that in the critical hour, thirty eight crores of our countrymen at home are looking at us, the Members of India's Army of liberation. Therefore, remain true to India and do not for a moment waver in your faith in India's destiny. The roads to Delhi are many and Delhi still remains our goal. The sacrifices of your immortal comrades and of yourselves will certainly achieve their fulfilment. There is no power on earth that can keep India enslaved. India shall be free before long.

'JAI HIND'

17th August 1945 (Sd.)

Government of Kerala
State Archives Department

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